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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

January 2006 **Volume 15 Number 1**

President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope 2006 will be a good year for you both in your personal lives and in your research!

WCGS believes in recycling and the membership has brought me back again as president. Your board has begun plans for what we hope will be a good year for WCGS.

Our speaker for January, Ray King, is outstanding! Make your plans to attend. You will be glad that you did!

Henry and I would like to say again that we are grateful for the expressions of appreciation at the Annual Meeting. We enjoyed the treats and will enjoy using the book in our research.

I would like to express appreciation to Carol Forbes for ably carrying the leadership of WCGS during her term as president and to those who served on the board with her.

Membership renewals have been coming in steadily; however, many of you still have not sent in your checks. LOOK AT YOUR ADDRESS LABEL. IF IT HAS THE LETTER "N" BESIDE YOUR NAME, YOUR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES WITH THIS ISSUE OF ***TREES OF WILSON.***

Trees of Wilson continues to be popular with our members because our readers submit such good material to include. The article written by Albert Page in this issue is a very good example of genealogical problem solving using deductive reasoning to identify an individual. Be sure to read it for methods that might help you solve one of your problems.

Send us your dues and articles for *Trees*! Don't miss an issue!

Sue Evans Powell

JANUARY 31ST MEETING

We will meet at 7 pm in the Conference Room at Wilson County Public Library. This room is reached by going up a few steps beyond the circulation desk and through the adult fiction section of books. The room is reserved for our use from 6:30 until closing, so you may come early to catch up with other members on their research.

Our speaker for the evening is Ray King from Johnston County. Your editors had the opportunity to attend a workshop conducted by Ray and were so glad that we did. He has a wonderful delivery and keeps his listeners entranced as he covers his material.

He will speak to us on "Researching Burned Counties," a problem that we encounter if we are researching some of the local counties and in Virginia where most of our ancestors lived before coming to North Carolina.

Ray King has 23 years experience in genealogy, has published abstracted records of Johnston County, and has had several family articles published over the years. He has served as president of the Johnston County Genealogical and Historical Society and as a member of the Johnston County Heritage Commission.

We hope to see you there! Ray will be sure to give you some new ideas and new enthusiasm to continue your research into your problem areas.

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DOES ANYBODY CARE?

It seems that someone in Black Creek does care. You received your 2006 calendar which was based on this little town. We hope you got the same impression that we did. The town is alive and active and being kept in fine shape. While there is little retail activity in the town (Wilson is 10-15 minutes away), it is popular as a bedroom community for those who work elsewhere. There are an impressive number of old homes which have been restored or maintained in their original or an improved condition.

Started as a railroad town, the railroad is of little significance any longer. The depot was pulled down some years ago, but the rail company still maintains the line. It is always possible that some industry might want to locate near the rail line which would be a big boon to Black Creek. With the new 4-lane Route 117 set to open soon, transportation to and from Black Creek will benefit with a direct connection to I-95. Don't count this village out just yet. Their motto is "A Town with a Big Heart," and they even have a New Year's Celebration with a heart that drops at midnight. Credit has to be given to the town fathers and the mayor who have held steady to keep this village from evaporating into dust.

We have a few copies of the calendar left in stock, available at $10 plus $2 shipping. This is our first time with a full-color calendar, and the results speak for themselves.

The old Fred Boswell house, ca 1880, still in great shape. Fred was a telegrapher for the railroad for 60 years.

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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FAMILY CONNECTIONS—*WILSON DAILY TIMES*

Bridgers Descendants Fled England—November 22, 2005.

We wrote a column on November 20, 2001, about puritans, pilgrims and Thanksgiving. We described the sad experience of puritan migration to Virginia beginning in 1618 in which most of the immigrants, including the leader, died. This experience was the reason that William Bradford took the next boatload of puritans to New England instead of Virginia. The Plymouth colony was a success story and is commemorated each year with our Thanksgiving observation.

Puritan migration to Virginia did continue but was severely hampered by the Indian massacre of 1622. Chief Powhatan had died, and the new chief was determined to rid Virginia of the invaders. Hundreds of settlers were killed, and Virginia got a reputation that kept it from getting more settlers for years. These were the years of the reign of the Cavalier King Charles I, elegant, prissy, and firmly convinced of the divine right of kings to do as they wished. His court officials helped to clear England of people that were unsuitable in the opinion of the court, and a steady stream of "His Majesty's Guests" arrived aboard prison ships to Virginia. Fortunately for those families, there don't seem to be any records that indicate what they did that caused them to be deported. They were simply placed as indentured servants with plantation owners in Virginia and soon melded into the population. In many cases, their only crime was being a puritan or a pauper.

That situation resolved itself with the puritan uprising headed by Oliver Cromwell, determined to unseat the Cavalier King and bring puritan virtue to the whole of England. We won't take you through the battles and intrigues that ensued. Suffice it to say that Charles was pursued, eventually captured and imprisoned. In January 1649, he was tried for treason but refused to cooperate and was sentenced to be beheaded. The event took place near the end of the month on a scaffold outside the Banqueting House on Whitehall in London. Oliver Cromwell became Lord Protector of England.

Charles had many supporters, and a ripple of fear ran through the whole of England as Charles's head rolled. No longer could his cavalier friends claim his support and protection. Cavalier families deserted England by the shiploads, and Virginia again became a desirable destination.

These were families skilled in farm management, money affairs and land dealings. They were born to money and added more throughout their lives. Every community had its share of such leaders. England's loss was Virginia's gain, at least to some extent. All Cavaliers were not gentlemen and some, such as William Byrd, while providing vital community services, gained a shady reputation as a lady's man. His diary is still "X" rated.

Many Cavalier families came with good intentions. We have chosen the Bridgers family as an example of a typical Cavalier immigrant who fled from Cromwell's puritan England. Young Joseph Bridgers, was born about 1627 in Gloucestershire at Woodmancote Manor in the Parish of Dursley. This family had extensive estates in the area but had originally come there from the County of Surrey in the south of England, probably in the 1200s. One of Joseph's close relatives was the Vicar of the Church at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, in the days when such a post was a cherished means of having a guaranteed income. One had to have the right connections to get such a post, and this indicates that the Bridgers family was well connected with the upper levels of society - the landed gentry and the nobility.

Young Joseph came to Virginia in 1652 with ambition and money.

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FAMILY CONNECTIONS—*Wilson Daily Times*

CHRISTMAS IN EARLY WILSON—DECEMBER 13, 2005

This has been a celebration year in Wilson—the 150th anniversary of the founding of our county in February 1855. The village of Wilson has been around a little longer, since 1849.

Christmas, as we know it today, would not have been recognized in 1855. Christmas trees had been introduced by German immigrants in the 18th century and were to be found in some homes. Of course, there was no electricity so trees were lighted with candles, very carefully. House fires were all too common, and homeowners would not have wanted to risk the loss of their home by careless use of candles on a highly flammable tree. Decorations were simple and mostly homemade. Popcorn strings were a major ornament and kept children busy for hours before Christmas with a needle and long thread, carefully piercing each kernel and pushing it along on the thread. Other natural materials were often used, with sweet gum balls being popular as well. Metal foil was rare and expensive so tinsel was some years in the future as was spun glass "angel hair." Cookies made good and edible ornaments and candy canes were popular. There was a factory in Wilson, operated by J. S. Perry, that made this confection along with candy ribbons which could also be used as ornaments.

When it came to gifts, the village had not developed the avid consumerism of the present day. Children were typically given a stocking from St. Nicholas (Santa Claus was a later Victorian invention). This stocking held little toys and games and a precious orange and some nuts, and that was it for the tykes. No towering mound of presents under the tree and big boxes on the hearth. A lucky older child might be given a bicycle, but these were still used as a principal means of transportation and were, therefore, priced appropriately. No shiny imports that might fall apart in a few months.

Gifts were handed around as the family gathered around the tree. Most gifts were handmade items such as knitted sweaters, mittens, or shawls. Store bought clothing was a special treat and involved a visit by parents or relatives to one of the thriving emporiums that had sprung up in Wilson in its first few years. In his store at the corner of Nash and Tarboro Streets, W. G. Jordan advertised a large selection of goods including clothing, boots, cutlery and dry goods (a old designation for fabric and general clothing).

If Mr. Jordan's goods were not to your liking, then you also had a choice of M. Rountree & Co. who advertised elegant bonnets and head dresses, laces, ribbons and trimmings of every description. He also sold ready-made clothing and had gained a reputation for selling directly from his barge which he brought up Contentnea Creek from Washington, N. C. He would notify the public and then hold sales at what is now Rountree's Bridge on Old Black Creek Road, near his family's home. His store later became Moss & Company on the corner of Barnes and Tarboro Streets and is now a church and union hall. Moses Rountree's house still stands on Rountree Street in Wilson, near the Catholic Church.

A careful shopper would also visit Oettinger's Dry Goods' Store, on Nash Street (now the Farris Law Office), which advertised superior ready-made clothing, hats, caps, fine boots and shoes for ladies and gentlemen. Similar stores included Gay and Davis who also offered, along with dry goods, groceries which meant large quantities of flour, sugar, etc. The term "grocery" came from merchants who offered edible items by the gross (12 dozen items) at a discount. Small food markets came later with the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company (A&P Stores).

Mr. W. W. Winstead advertised a large establishment with an "abundance of dry goods, crockery, hardware, and negro goods" (work clothing). He assured the public that he, himself, had personally selected his goods in New York City and had them shipped here by rail.

W. S. Duggan, Jeweler, next to Rountree's store on Tarboro Street, advertised a new and well selected assortment of watches and jewelry of every description and a variety of other articles usually found in such an establishment.

An interesting gift would have been a still from Joseph Freeman whose emporium was located next to the Baptist Church (about where the Morehead Seafood Market is now located). He assured the public that they could produce their own spirits (there was no law prohibiting this at the time).

There were numerous advertisements in the local paper of the time (The Wilson Ledger) for merchants in Norfolk and Wilmington. The Wilmington and Weldon Railway came through Wilson so goods could be economically shipped to fill mail orders.

Mr. George G. Evans of Chestnut Street in Philadelphia made it known that he would ship any book requested directly to a customer in Wilson and would enclose a valuable gift with each book. No doubt, Mr. Charles Dickens' books were popular sellers at the time. Mrs. M. E. Bond of Tarboro enticed customers to make the tedious 25 mile trip to her town for a delectable selection of millinery goods (hats and bonnets to us), French flowers, feathers, laces, silks, crapes, ribbons and dress trimmings.

The Town of Wilson had obviously filled a void in the wilderness, and the new County of Wilson provided a ready-made customer base for the thriving local merchants. Oettinger's and Gay's stores survived until the mid 1900s. One merchant we didn't find in the 1850s was Branch and Hadley who sold farm supplies by 1870. They also began to make loans to farmers to buy seeds and fertilizer. It wasn't long before Mr. Branch bought out Mr. Hadley and turned to handling money alone, thus creating the mighty BB&T (Branch Banking and Trust Company).

Henry and Sue Powell

WILSON LEDGER ADVERTISEMENT

November 27, 1860

STEAM SAW, LATHE, AND GRIST MILL, WILSON, N. C.

The Subscriber takes the present opportunity of informing the public and the building profession generally, that he has succeeded to the milling business so successfully carried on by Mr. Samuel Marsbourne, and he is now prepared to execute all bills for Lumber at the shortest notice.

C. Ibbetson, Proprietor
G. B. Ballenger, Superintendent.

WHO WAS ELIZABETH SKINNER?

Contributed by Albert R. Page, Sr.

The obituary of Elizabeth Skinner was reprinted in the November 2005 *TREES OF WILSON* (pg. 117) from the old *ZION'S LANDMARK* of 1 March 1889. Many, many disappointing facts of identification were missing from her obituary that could have permanently told all and especially later generations who she was.[1] One hundred and seventeen years later determining exactly what family she belonged to in order today to give her the honor she deserves will largely depend on guarded speculation. Until future evidence appears that without question tells us who this Elizabeth Skinner was let me take the liberty of submitting my suggestion as to her identity.

What personal identifying facts can be gleaned from Bobby Boykin's contributed obituary on Elizabeth Skinner? S. Holden wrote the original obituary that was published in 1889. This may be the same Samuel Holden listed in Boykin's Wilson County 1880 Census with his family in the Gardners Township.[2] Most likely Elizabeth Skinner lived in Gardners Township also. Elizabeth Skinner was reported to be born on the 10th of September in 1840 and died of tuberculosis on Christmas day in 1888. Her husband and five children survived their 48 year old wife and mother. Elizabeth Skinner's father and mother survived her but no maiden name was mentioned by S. Holden's written obituary. Many other relatives and friends mourned her passing it was said. The critical place of her burial was not mentioned neither was her husband, children or parent's names identified by S. Holden.[3]

Since it was said Elizabeth Skinner always lived in Wilson County, North Carolina, and she died in 1888, I looked at Boykin's 1880 Wilson County Census for her identity. Three Elizabeth Skinners appeared in that census. One could be discounted right away as she was only 8 years old. The other two listed were wives of two brothers: Jesse L. and Thomas H. Skinner.[4] By consulting Joan Howell's 1900 Wilson County Census, I found Jesse Skinner's family and his wife Elizabeth (or Bettie) still alive, and she was 51 years old.[5] It was obvious that I could eliminate this Elizabeth Skinner also. I then looked at Boykin's marriage records of Wilson County. Listed there were the marriages of the two Skinner brothers Jesse and Thomas H. Skinner. Jesse Skinner married Elizabeth Pittman, and Thomas H. Skinner married Elizabeth Barnes on the 27th of November in 1866. D. W. Barnes was the officiating authority.[6] Now some light begins to shine on the late Elizabeth Skinner who was the subject of S. Holden's obituary.

I next turned to Howell's 1870 Wilson County Census for information on the Thomas H. Skinner and Elizabeth Barnes' family. They were listed as living in the Gardners Township, and Elizabeth's age was reported to be 29 years old. That was very close to the age that S. Holden had reported her birth year to be. Elizabeth and Thomas Skinner, so the record states, had two children: Sarah, age 2, and William, 1 year old.[7] I returned to Boykin's 1880 Wilson County Census for the Thomas H. Skinner's family. They were there again in the Gardners Township. Elizabeth was listed as wife and 38 years old. Again her age was close to the 1840 birth year stated by the obituary. Thomas and Elizabeth Barnes Skinner had five children by then and that was consistent with the number listed by S. Holden in his obituary of Elizabeth Skinner. The additional three children listed since the 1870 census were Georgie L., 8 years old, Cernem, a daughter, 6 years old and 1 year old daughter Unity.[8]

To find Elizabeth Barnes Skinner in her family of orientation, I looked at Howell's 1860 Wilson County Census. Elizabeth was there with her parents, and her mother was named Unity just as Elizabeth's daughter was named. Her father was listed as Hardy F. Barnes. Elizabeth Barnes was listed as 19 years old which again closely paralleled her stated birth year by S. Holden in his obituary. In this census, Elizabeth Barnes had siblings: Malvina, Hickman and John.[9] To compare the 1860 information with the previous census, I looked at Bradley's 1850 Edgecombe County Census for the Hardy F. Barnes family. Elizabeth was listed as an eleven year old with five siblings. W. G., B. F., and J. B. were listed there, but they were not listed in the 1860 census.[10] Finally, I went to Howell's Wilson County Cemetery Vol. II book for the graveyard of Hardy F. Barnes. Elizabeth Barnes Skinner's parents and two brothers, among others, were found buried there in the Gardners Township of Wilson County. Father Hardly F. Barnes died after Elizabeth's death in 1889. Mother Unity Ellis Barnes died after her daughter by just over two years in 1891.[11] The fact that Elizabeth Skinner's parents survive her was consistent with what was said in the obituary.

Summary

The birth years listed in the census reports from 1850 to 1880 for Elizabeth Barnes Skinner were close to the birth given by S. Holden in his obituary. Though Elizabeth Skinner's maiden name was not mentioned in the obituary the Wilson County marriage record listed it as Barnes. The marriage and census records reveal her husband to be Thomas H. Skinner. He was the son of William Hasleton Skinner and Rebecca Gill of Gardners Township. Thomas H. Skinner's siblings were: Mary Ann, Martha Ann, Jesse L., Jane, Van Buren, Felicia, William Ann, and Florence R.[12] S. Holden stated Elizabeth Skinner's parents survived her, and the graveyard headstones indicated that her father died 11 months after her death. Her mother died two years after Elizabeth's death in 1891.[13] The five children listed in the 1880 census conforms to the five children S. Holden stated were alive at Elizabeth's death.[14] Two mysteries remain to be solved. No record at present can be found to document the whereabouts of Elizabeth Skinner's family of procreation or husband Thomas H. after her death.[15] They were not listed in the 1900 Wilson County Census.[16] Maybe they moved out of the county of their birth? Neither has a burial location for Elizabeth Barnes Skinner been found. No headstone seems to survive to help with this problem. There is no headstone for her in her father's graveyard. The other logical option might be that she was buried in the graveyard of Thomas H. Skinner's father. Sad to say that burial place has been plowed over, and only one headstone next to the road still marks that graveyard location. It is possible that both Elizabeth and hus-

(Continued on page 5)

(Elizabeth Skinner, continued from page 4)
band Thomas were buried there, and the stones were removed years later so there would be no obstructions in the field for cultivation.[17] This writer reported on that graveyard in a previous article.[18] Further research is necessary to locate Elizabeth Skinner, her husband and her children. It is highly possible that descendants of Elizabeth Barnes and Thomas Skinner live right among other residents of Wilson County today.[19]

Might I suggest a 2006 obituary for Elizabeth Skinner: Elizabeth Barnes Skinner, daughter of Hardy Flowers Barnes and Unity Ellis, was born on the 10th of September in 1840, in what was then Edgecombe County, N.C. She passed away in Wilson County, N.C., where she lived most of her life, on the 25th of December 1888, of tuberculosis. She left husband Thomas Hasleton Skinner and five children: Sarah J., wife of John H. Weaver, Georgie L., wife of Alsey Batts, William B. (19 yrs.), Cernem (16 yrs) and Unity (9 yrs) to celebrate her life. The late Elizabeth Barnes Skinner was a baptized member of Andrew Moore's Primitive Baptist Church in Gardners Township.[20] Elizabeth's elderly parents Hardy and Unity Ellis Barnes survive her. She and her husband Thomas Skinner were married for 22 years. Elizabeth Skinner leaves many extended relatives and friends to cherish her memory. The deceased will be buried in the William H. Skinner family burial grounds on the 26th of December 1888.[21]

Notes and Comments:

1. *Trees of Wilson*, Nov. 2005, pg. 117. "Elizabeth Skinner Obituary," Zion's Landmark, March 1, 1889, contributed by J. Robert Boykin. "Departed this life, Dec. 25th, 1888, Elizabeth Skinner. She was born Sept. 10, 1840, in Wilson County, N.C. where she lived all of her life. She united with the Primitive Baptist Church at Moore's, Wilson County, on the 25th of Sept. 1875. She was baptized I think by Elder A. J. Moore. Her light did shine through all the days of her membership even brighter and brighter unto the end. She had consumption, and bore her sickness with marked patience,... She leaves a husband and five children to mourn for her, also a father and mother, and many other relatives and friends, ... S. Holden"
2. J. Robert Boykin III, *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, 1984, pg. 242 "Samuel Holden, family no. 70/79."
3. Same as no. 1 source above.
4. See source number 2, pg. 395, Jesse Skinner, family no. 91/102; Pinnina Skinner, family no. 231/231; & Thomas H. Skinner, family no. 122/133.
5. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1900*. 2000, pg. 79, Jessie Skinner, family no. 184.
6. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899, Vol. II, M-Z*, 1988, pg. 639 & 640. See Jesse Skinner marriage to Elizabeth Pittman & Thomas H. Skinner to Elizabeth Barnes.
7. Joan Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1870*. 1993, pg. 58. Thomas Skinner, family no. 125.
8. Same source as no. 4. See Thomas Skinner family, pg. 395, no. 122/133.
9. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1860*. 1993, Hardy F. Barnes family, no. 624, pg. 65.
10. Stephen E. Bradley, Jr., *The 1850 Federal Census, Edgecombe County, North Carolina*. 1990, pg. 59, F. H. Barnes, family no. 1627, 84.
11. Joan L. Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries, Vol. II*, 1993, pg. 8-9, H.F. Barnes Cemetery. See also Albert R. Page, Sr., article "Hardy Flowers Barnes" WCGS *Trees of Wilson*, Aug. 2000, pg. 4.
12. Same source as no. 9, pg. 79, William Skinner family. See also Albert R. Page, Sr., article "William Hasleton Skinner" in WCGS *Trees of Wilson*, Apr. 1997, pg. 6.
13. See source no. 11.
14. See source no. 2.
15. They may have moved out of Wilson County to another location close by such as to Whitakers, N.C.
16. See index of Howell's *1900 Wilson Co. Census*.
17. The late Everett Brice, who was born and lived all his early life in the Rosebud Church Road area of Gardners Township, in interview told this writer that, at an early period, he remembered when there were many nice headstones in the Wm. H. Skinner graveyard. Today only the small headstone of Rebecca Skinner Moore, daughter of W. H. Skinner, remains to mark the general cemetery location on the Cattail Road.
18. Same source in no. 12 for Wm. H. Skinner.
19. It is known that descendants of William, Hardy, Duncan, Jesse and many female Skinner women continue to live in Wilson County today.
20. For over 100 years the A. J. Moore Primitive Baptist Church and graveyard was located at the intersection of Gardners School Road and highway #42. Recently that old frame church was razed due to little or no membership to sustain its continued use and upkeep. Andrew Moore and his family moved to Whitakers early in time where he continued his ministry. Some of his congregation moved there with him. Many of them are buried in the Whitakers Cemetery.
21. It is only speculation that Thomas, Elizabeth Barnes, Jesse and his wife Elizabeth Pittman Skinner were buried in the old Wm. H. Skinner graveyard. None of their headstones survive. Later in time that burial place was called "the Moore graveyard" after J.C. Moore bought that land around 1900. J. C. Moore was reported to have been buried there too.

MAYOR'S COURT

Daily Times, February 29, 1916

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Henry Cole, disorderly conduct $2.50.

Bill Bridgers, drunk and disorderly, $6.25.

J. S. Kearns, who runs a café on South Goldsboro street was up for transporting 38½ pints of whiskey for the purpose of sale, was given 5 months, but took an appeal, Hon. John E. Woodard, attorney.

Pank Brown, riding bicycle on side walk, $1.

Clarence Matthews and V. S. Wyatt for transporting 13 quarts of whiskey in the town of Wilson. Judgment was suspended and liquor destroyed, but if either party is caught dealing in whiskey again, severe punishment will follow.

Albert Harrison, drunk and disorderly $9.75.

LULA MAE JONES
Contributed by Mary Marie Little Bailey

Lula Mae Jones was the eldest of seven children. She was born on August 24, 1906. On August 21, 1924, in Walstonburg, N. C., standing next to her Daddy's sick bed (Eddie Jackson Jones), she and Paul Ollen Little were married. On July 12, 1980, after a very long illness, she died in a nursing home in Morehead City, N. C. She is buried in the Little family burial plot in Maplewood Cemetery in Wilson, North Carolina.

Lula was a very hard working farmer's wife. She labored right along beside Paul, as well as bearing eight children and raising seven of the them to full adulthood. When Paul decided to give up farming and built his first café in Saratoga, North Carolina, Lula continued to work from sun-up to sundown, helping in the café from opening to closing, washing clothes in an old wash pot over an open fire out in the back yard, making home-made "box lye soap" doing all the other "wifely" duties that were required of her at home as well. Then they bought another café in Stantonsburg. After this time, they purchased the Red Apple Café in Wilson and yet another restaurant, Little's Bar-B-Q in Wilson. Lula continued to work beside Paul every day! After retiring from the restaurant business, they built a rooming house three blocks from Atlantic Christian College in Wilson for the college students there. After this, they began purchasing real estate for rental properties. Paul and Lula continued to work very hard long past the normal retirement age. Everyone that knew them would tell you they were two of the hardest working people they had ever known!

My Mama and her siblings, in birth order are: Lula Mae Jones Little, Eva Jones Smith, Dorothy Elizabeth Jones Kesterson, Marvin Jones, Ernest Jones, Abe Jones and Pearl Jones Walston. Her father was Eddie Jackson Jones. He was born on April 9, 1883. Eddie was 66 years old at the time of his death. He was a farmer from the Spring Branch Community in Saratoga (Wilson County), North Carolina. After being in a Wilson hospital for two weeks, and following a serious illness, he died at 9 p.m. on Sunday evening, October 16, 1949. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. R. H. Jackson, a Free Will Baptist Minister of Saratoga. Interment was in the family cemetery near Walstonburg, North Carolina. Before his death, Eddie was a member of the Farmville Tribe of Red Men.

Lula's mother's name was Sarah Evans. Sarah was born on May 15, 1888, and died of tuberculosis on May 14, 1931. Lula absolutely adored her mother! She shared many wonderful memories of their mother-daughter relationship with me. She always talked about her name-sake Sarah Lee Little (my older sister) and how much she resembled her mother, both inside and out! When my mother named my sister Sarah, little did she know that her fifth-born daughter was going to be "the spitting image of her grandmother," the same name as the grandmother she was to grow up to resemble so much! If my grandmother Sarah Evans Jones had lived just one more day, she would have died on her 44th birthday. As it was, the grandmother that I never had the pleasure of knowing was only 43 years old when she died.

After the death of Sarah Evans Jones (on May 14, 1931), Eddie Jones was to marry again. His second wife's name was Flora Cunningham Jones. Flora was born on August 19, 1906, and died in 1973. Eddie and Flora were to have four children. They were: Ralph Willis Jones, Douglas Broughton Jones, Leslie Jones and Sybil Gray Jones.

Lula's paternal grandfather was William Jones. I do not have a birth or death date for William. Her paternal grandmother was Becky Corbett. I do not have birth or death dates for Becky either.

Lula's maternal grandfather was John Evans, born in 1842 (I do not have a death date). Her maternal grandmother was Nancy Anne Whitley. She was born on March 7, 1853, and died on December 2, 1947.

Lula's maternal great grandfather was John Whitley. He was born in 1820 (no death date). Her maternal great grandmother was Betsy Langley (no birth or death dates).

CORRECTION—EDWARD W. LYTLE

The article "Edward W. Lytle—Sheffield, England" in November *Trees,* page 116, last paragraph, third line from the bottom, contains an error in the death date of Paul Ollen Little. Please correct your copy to record his death date as October 17, 1989.

***(Bridgers Descendants** continued from page 2*

He soon married Hester Pitt of Isle of Wight County, and they set to building their own manor house which they called "Whitemarsh" (the home burned before 1739). He also took upon himself the task of establishing a church nearby his new home. He superintended the building of this fine brick church, now known as St. Luke's, or simply The Old Brick Church.

There has been much debate over the years about the date of construction. There is a brick over the door with "1632" carved into it. Church records indicated that that building was rebuilt in the 19th century and that this brick was found in the interior rubble. It appears that it could have shown "1682" but had been changed for whatever reason. The earlier date is simply not possible. Bridgers was not here until 1652, so the actual date is probably somewhere between 1652 and 1682. Bridgers is recognized by a plaque in the church for his contributions.

The church is no longer used as a place of worship, the parish having been removed to Smithfield, a few miles away. It is now an official monument, definitely the oldest brick church in Virginia and maybe in America. It is open daily for tours except for January.

Joseph Bridger acquired the title of Colonel and produced several children. His eldest son, Joseph, Jr., incurred his father's displeasure with his indolent ways and was disinherited. Joseph, Jr. later sued his siblings for a share of his father's estate and was successful. His descendents are the founders of the Wilson County crossroads known as Bridgersville, once a thriving community. Now it has only one convenience store. We will present more details on the generations in between in a later column.

Henry and Sue Powell

[Editor's note: This printing of the article corrects errors of the given names in the last paragraph.]

JETHRO HARRISON—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contributed by Mary Ivey Smith

I saw the recent inquiry concerning Jethro Harrison and wanted to respond. My cousin and I believe we stumbled on Jethro's parents and the following is the information down to present day.

[Editor's note: The last two generations were omitted to protect the privacy of those living.]

John Cauthen Harrison—birth date unknown.
- Died about 1761 in Nansemond County, Virginia
- Married Celeste
  - **Jethro Harrison, Sr.**—born about 1753 in Nansemond County, Virginia
    - Died 1811 in North Carolina. His death was obtained from the secretary of the church he attended. He joined the church in 1805.
    - Married Mary Jenkins in Nansemond County, Virginia
      - **Jethro Harrison, Jr.**—born November 15, 1790, in Nash County, North Carolina
        - Died December 14, 1843, in Greene County, Alabama
        - Married Anna Eatman, daughter of John
        - Listed as planter on voter list of 1856.
        - Children:
          - Nancy Harrison—born January 10, 1814, in North Carolina
            - Died December 31, 1881, in Texas
            - Married Goin C. Richardson March 29, 1832, Greene County, Alabama
          - Catherine Harrison—married John Edward Long
          - Henry Harrison—born 1812 in North Carolina
            - Died 1852
            - Married Elizabeth J. Higgenbotham, daughter of G. G. Higgenbotham
          - Dempsey Harrison—born 1816 in North Carolina
            - Died December 5, 1878, in Mobile, Alabama
            - Married Letha Ann Brock, daughter of Archibald Brock, on October 21, 1843, in Greene County, Alabama
          - **Mourning Harrison**—born March 9, 1823, in Greene County, Alabama
            - Died February 20, 1901, in Troy, Alabama
            - Married Henry Erasmus Brooks, son of Joseph Brooks and Mary Ann Anthony, on October 27, 1844, in Clinton, Greene County, Alabama. Henry was a chaplain in the C.S.A. and served as president of five colleges.
            - Children:
              - Emily Brooks—born February 23, 1858
                - Died May 29, 1936, in Pike County, Alabama
                - Married Oglethorpe Worthy
              - **Mary Frances Brooks**—born October 21, 1846, in Selma, Alabama
                - Died April 20, 1917, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Married John Campbell Reynolds on January 12, 1869, in Tuskegee, Alabama
                - Children:
                - **Henry Campbell Reynolds**—born July 26, 1872, in Auburn, Alabama
                - Died October 22, 1935, in Montgomery, Alabama
                - Married Nancy Hines Blackmon, daughter of William B. and Nancy Powell Blackmon, on December, 19, 1894, in Georgetown, Georgia
                - Children:
                - Kate Lillian Reynolds—born December 17, 1897, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Died January 22, 1985, in Montgomery, Alabama
                - Married Benjamin Franklin Rosumny
                - Henry Preston Reynolds—born November 18, 1898, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Died August 19, 1961, in McAllister, Oklahoma
                - Henry Bunyon Reynolds—born February 11, 1902, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Died January 22, 1988, in Riverside, California
                - Frank Harrison Reynolds—born April 23, 1904, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Died May 11, 1906, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - **Nan Reynolds**—born October 25, 1908, in Eufaula, Alabama
                - Died July 8, 1981, in Montgomery, Alabama
                - Married John Torrey Ivey, Jr., son of John Thomas and Leona Sikes Ivey, on September 30, 1933, in Montgomery, Alabama

PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL REPORTS
FOR THE YEAR 1918-19
N. C. State Archives, Dept. of Public Instructions, 1918-1919, Box 2
Folder: Wilson, County, N. C., 1918-1919
Contributed by Grace W. Turner

[Editor's note: Italics are used to indicate entries made on the form by the principals.]

Stantonsburg High School, Wilson County
Principal (or official head)—*Mary W. Hyman,* Postoffice—*Stantonsburg, N. C.*
Committee: Chairman—*J. C. Stanton* Secretary—*A. S. Wooten*
Other Members—*Larry Overman*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date school opened this year—Oct. *7*; Date school closed this year—*May 23;* Length of term in weeks—*32*
Number of years in elementary course upon which the high school is based—*7;* Number of years of high-school course actually given this year—*4*

Number of full-time high-school teachers:	Male—0;	Female—3;	Total—*3*
Number of part-time high-school teachers:	Male—*0*;	Female—*0*;	Total—*0*
Total number of high-school pupils enrolled:	Boys—*12*;	Girls—*22*;	Total—*34*
Average daily attendance in high school for year	Boys—;	Girls—;	Total—*30*
Total number of teachers in entire school (including elementary and high school in case both schools are operated in one building):	Male—0;	Female—8;	Total—*8*
Total number of pupils in entire school (including elementary and high school in case both schools are operated in one building):	Male—73;	Female—80;	Total—*153*

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

- *Darden, Lillian*, Annual Salary--*$520, Stantonsburg High School Diploma, Louisburg Col. Diploma.* Teacher of *Latin I* for *4 years, 2* years in Secondary Schools, *2* years in this school teaching this subject with *1* Recitation Daily, *1* year in this school teaching *Latin II Caesar* with *1* Recitation Daily, 1 year in this school teaching *Latin III Cicero* with *1* Recitation Daily, *1* year in this school teaching *Latin IV Virgil* with *1* Recitation Daily, *1* year in this school teaching *History Ancient* with *1* Recitation Daily, *1* year in this school teaching *Arith IV* with *1* Recitation Daily;
- *Hyman, Mary*, Annual Salary *$1200, Batts Pub. School Diploma, N. C. State Normal Col. Diploma.* Teacher for *12* years, *2* years in Secondary Schools, *1* year in this school and *2* years teaching the subject of *Physics* with *1* Recitation Daily, *2* years in this school teaching *English I* with *1* Recitation Daily, *2* years in this school teaching *History (Mod)* with *1* Recitation Daily, *2* years in this school teaching *Spelling & Writ. [?]* with *2* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy—*Those [courses] required by N. C. State Co. Primary Midle at Columbia.* No. Weeks Attended Summer School—*18. Life Primary Permanent Supervisor's* Certificate Held
- *Shore, Ethel*, Annual Salary *$600, Yadkinville High School Diploma, State Col. For Women (N. C.) B. E.*. Teacher of *English II* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily, Teacher of *English III* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily, Teacher of *English IV* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily, Teacher of *Algebra I* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily, Teacher of *Algebra II* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily, Teacher of *Geometry III* for *1* year in this school with *1* Recitation Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy—*Those required at State Col. For Women. State High School* Certificate

LIST OF GRADUATES

Names of Graduates	Home Address	Curriculum Completed
Hales, George Stanton	*Stantonsburg, N. C.*	*4 yr. Col Entrance*
		Major Subjects
		Latin
		Math
		English
		History
		Science
Speight, Ada Belle	"	"
Stanton, Mary Lee	"	"
Strickland, Eunice Cora	*Evansdale, N. C.*	"
Wooten, Mabel Estelle	*Stantonsburg, N. C.*	"

(Continued on page 9)

(High School Reports, continued from page 8)

Wilson High School, Wilson County
Principal (or official head)—*Birdie McKinney,* Postoffice—*Wilson, N. C.*
Committee: Chairman—*Geo. Hackney* Secretary—*R. A. Turlington*
Other Members—J. F. Bruton, J. R. Edmundson, U. H. Cozart, Dr. C. E. Moore, R. P. Watson.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date school opened this year—*Sept. 2, 1918*; Date school closed this year—*May 16, 1919;* Length of term in weeks—30 Number of years in elementary course upon which the high school is based—*7;* Number of years of high-school course actually given this year—*4*

Number of full-time high-school teachers:	Male—0;	Female—6;	Total—6
Number of part-time high-school teachers:	Male—*0*;	Female—5;	Total—5
Total number of high-school pupils enrolled:	Boys—85;	Girls—118;	Total—203
Average daily attendance in high school for year	Boys—57;	Girls—94;	Total—151
Total number of teachers in entire school (including elementary and high school in case both schools are operated in one building):	Male—*0*;	Female—18;	Total—18
Total number of pupils in entire school (including elementary and high school in case both schools are operated in one building):	Male—288;	Female—355;	Total—643

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

- *Florence Mayerberg*, *4* Years as Student at State Normal School, *Goldsboro High School, Graduate State Normal.* Teacher of *History & Civics* for *13* years in Secondary Schools, *2* years in this school with *5* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy. *14* Weeks Attended Summer School. *Life* Certificate.
- *Estelle Dillon*, *5* Years as Student at State Normal School, *B. E. Academic Degree, Normal College 1917.* Teacher of *History & French* for *2* years teaching this subject in this school with *6* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy. *4* Weeks Attended Summer School
- *Eulalie Cox*, *3* Years as College Student, *A. B.* Academic Degree, *Trinity High School 4 yr. Salem.* Teacher of *Latin*, for *14* years in Secondary Schools, *6* years in this school, *6* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy. *22* Weeks Attended Summer School. *Life* Certificate
- *Mabel Cooper*, *5* Years as State Normal School Student, *A. B.* Academic Degree, *Hickory High School, Graduate State Normal.* Teacher of *English, Writing* for *4* years, *3* years in secondary schools at this school with *6* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy. *2* Weeks Attended Summer School. *High School* Certificate
- *Belle Hampton, 5* Years as State Normal School Student, *Graduate State Normal College*, Teacher of *English, Writing* for *11* years, *7* years in secondary schools, *6* years at this school with *6* Recitations Daily. Courses Taken in Pedagogy. *4* Weeks Attended Summer School. *Permanent* Certificate
- *Birdie McKinney*, *4* Years as State Normal School Student, *Graduate State Normal College*, Teacher of *Mathematics* for *16* years, *16* years in secondary schools, *2* years at this school with *4* Recitations Daily. *26* Weeks Attended Summer School. *Life* Certificate

Miss Cox has attended Sum. Schools of Univ. of Tenn., A. & E. College and Columbia Univ.
Miss McKinney has attended Sum. Schools of Univ. of Va., N. C., & Columbia Univ.

Part time teachers:

Miss Arey Liper, Science	*Both graduates*
" Juanita McDougald, History Asst.	*N. C. College for Women*
" *Emma Bobbitt, Asst. Math.*	*Graduate Trinity College*

LIST OF GRADUATES

Names of Graduates	Home Address	Curriculum Completed
Annie May Barnes	*Wilson, N. C.*	
Elizabeth Batts	" "	
Hewland A. Branch	" "	
Jessie Burden	" "	
Mary Edward Clark	" "	
Elizabeth Goodman Connor	" "	
Aylmer G. Deans	" "	
Mary Ford Finch	" "	
Marjorie Grantham	" "	
Elizabeth Griffin	" "	
Muriel Helen Isear	" "	
Raymond E. Matthews	" "	
Howell Cobb Moss	" "	
Margaret Overman	" "	
Velma Daphne Owens	" "	
Lelia Estelle Perry	" "	
Inez Elizabeth Sanders	" "	
Annie R. Sikes	" "	
Russell A. Thompson	" "	
Ethel Louise Turlington	" "	
Annie Lee Walker	" "	
Lila Ruth Warren	" "	
Margaret Watson	" "	

MARRIAGE OF KINCHEN CARL MOORE TO LELIA FOSTER PRIVETTE

GOLDSBORO ARGUS, October 23, 1909

Submitted by Leila Moore Berry

[Editor: This wedding description has been edited solely for space reasons as the original version took two pages.]

BEAUTIFUL WEDDING IN ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WEDNESDAY NIGHT OCTOBER 20, 1909

No more lovely nor more impressive marriage has ever been solemnized in this city than was that of Dr. Kinchen Carl Moore [of Wilson] and Miss Leila Foster Privett [of Goldsboro] in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Wednesday night at eight o'clock.

As the families were seated, Mrs. Ehrlich E. Smith sang "Because God Made Thee Mine."

The Bridal Attendants entered led by Miss Blanch King with R. D. Parrott, Lizzie Higgs of Greenville with Jake Meyerburg, Louisa Slocum with Paul Borden, Kate Isler with Tom O'Berry, Hattie Dewey with Street Munroe, Alice Aycock of Raleigh with Dr. Oscar Hooks of Wilson, Josephine Wrenn of Norfolk, Va., with Frank Daniels, Miss Etheridge of Norfolk, Va., with Kennon Borden, Sophie Jenkins with Frank Creech, Diana Whitfield with Leslie Lane, Emma Finlayson with Ben Witherington, Clara Porter with Frank Castex, Jr., Jennie Ormond with Edwin B. Lee, Annie Lea Davis with Robert Powell, Mary Lane with Dr. W. P. Exum, Jr., Lydia Winslow with Will Ormond, Jessie Brothers with Raton Slaughter, Rosa Powell with Dewey Slocum, Elsie Dortch with Leslie Yelverton. Then came the Bridal Party, led by Messers. G. W. Stanton of Wilson and W. H. Winstead, brother-in-law of the bride, as honorary ushers, and the following ushers. Messers, John Gorham and Frank Freeman and Dr. Paul Lane and Dr. Henry Best, of Wilson. Then came the bridesmaids as follows: Misses Mary Moore and LeMay Dewey, Elsie Moore and Vivian Wooten, all gowned in white messaline with pearl and silver trimmings and large black hats, carrying bouquets of yellow chrysanthemums..

The lovely maid of honor, Miss Lucia Privet, sister of the bride, gowned in yellow messaline with gold trimmings and large black hat, carrying bouquet of brides roses, was followed by a ring bearer, Lucillle Stanton of Wilson.

Rev. J. Gilmore Buskie stood at the chancel and led the wedding ceremony. Miss Georgia Lee presided over the organ, rendering both the processional and the recessional.

The bride, attired in cream moire with lace and pearl trimmings and a veil caught up by a diamond and pearl brooch, a gift of the groom, was given away by her brother, Mr. Doyle B. Privett. The groom's best man was Mr. Jack N. Milner, of New York.

Immediately after the ceremony the party repaired to the bride's home opposite the church for an informal reception. The newlyweds departed on the 9:50 train for an extended bridal trip north after which they will return to the groom's home in Wilson, where he has enjoyed a growing practice.

[Editor: Dr. Moore's practice was based in the Wilson Sanitorium, a private hospital on Nash Street adjacent to the present Imagination Station. The building has undergone many changes over the years, mostly being used for retail stores.]

BENJAMIN ALFORD OBITUARY

The Wilson Times, September 9, 1914

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Benjamin Alford Dead

After having been in declining health for nine months, and the larger part of the time confined to his bed Mr. Benjamin Alford died at his home near Kenly, N. C., Tuesday morning at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Alford is survived by his wife and five children, these being Messrs. J. H. and Stephen Alford, of Kenly; Rev. J. W. Alford, of Morehad [sic.] City; Mrs. Henry Watson and Miss Nellie Alford, of Kenly. Two other brothers besides Mr. L. S. Alford and a sister also survive him.

Mr. Alford was 60 years old August 28. He was a citizen of sterlling [sic.] worth and he will be missed in his community. He was a member of the Free Will Baptist church and also of the Masons. He was prominent in the counsels of the Masonic order, having been a representative to the Grand Lodge for the past 15 years except for the last few years during which his failing health prevented his active participation in the work of the order.

The funeral took place yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock, the services being conducted by Rev. Mr. Vanse of the Free Will Baptist church. Many friends and neighbors joined in the last tribute of respect.

The funeral was held from the home.

Rev. T. W. Chambliss of this city went to Kenly at the request of the Masonic order of that place to assist in the burial services, Mr. Alford having been Master of the lodge there for a number of years. Sixty members of the Masonic lodge united in the services, which were conducted at the family burial ground near Kenly.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR VALENTINE RETIRES

The Wilson Daily Times, December 30, 2005

Patrick Valentine will end his tenure with the Wilson County Public Library at the end of January. He has been the director of the County Library System for 20 years. He was just the third director of the library, which opened in the 1930s.

Greg Needham, 40, who is library director of the Farmville Public Library, was chosen to succeed Valentine Jan. 23. He was recommended to the board of trustees by a selection committee of three -- Woody Harrison, Jr., Library Board of Trustee chairman; Sarah Warden, vice chairman; and Bob Reardon, board secretary. He was chosen from 16 applicants.

[Editor: The editors of *Trees* wish to express appreciation to Dr. Valentine for his thoughtful, scholarly and dedicated service to the community. Patrick listened carefully to what we told him we needed to support the growing surge of interest in genealogy, and he went to bat for us in the library renovation. We went from a four-seat large closet to one entire upstairs wing of the building. The challenge to all of us now is to make good use of this new facility.

In particular, we would like to commend Patrick for helping to preserve the Hugh Johnston collection by providing binding and shelf space for these documents.

We urge Mr. Needham to sustain this growth, and we offer him our support and cooperation.]

MINUTES, NOVEMBER 29, 2005

WCGS met on Tuesday evening November 29th in the meeting room of the county library. Carol Forbes, who was presiding for her last time this term, welcomed the members, some of whom were new to the group. Attendance was good, and there was a great deal of interest and member participation throughout the evening.

Officers for the coming year were installed: Sue Powell, president; Phil Mooring, vice president; Frances Roberson, secretary; Henry Powell, treasurer; Laura Newsome, a new board member; and Carol Forbes to be on the board according to the new bylaw stating that the immediate past president would serve on the board.

Henry gave a brief treasurer's report. Sales of the Founding Families book continue to come in. Income for the past month was $432.00 with expenses of $168.00 for printing the newsletter and $207.00 of other expenses. A prepared report was available for all members to read.

The Old Dobbs Genealogical Society book on Wayne county cemeteries is at the printers and will be available soon. Our calendar for the year 2006, which features Black Creek, is at the printers and should be ready for mailing in a week. All members receive a copy as part of their membership benefits. Hopefully sales of additional calendars will be good during this Christmas season. The price is $10.00 per calendar plus $2.00 for mailing when that service is required.

Sue Powell gave a report of the past year's activities which included :
220 active members, 43 new members, $4440.00 collected from dues; 10 printed issues of Trees at a cost of $.84 per copy; programs and speakers; families covered in the paper; and sales of all printed materials. There was an income of $6335.40 from sales.

Henry reminded us that Food Lion donates a small amount of money to nonprofit organizations when the MVP card is used if the card has been properly registered for that purpose. He also had made arrangements for us to give him our information, and he will accomplish that task on line for each of us!!

Announcements of interest: Billy Lamm has found a new cemetery. A DVD has been made of the excellent program done by Guy Cox last fall and is available for viewing. The Wilson County Historical Association is working on trying to get information on all WWII veterans from this county.

The program for the evening was show and tell. An old burl walnut box, silver brush set, tin types, pages copied from Bibles, shoe forms from a family cobbler, framed copy of an obituary, Callaway Garden connections and a family connection found through Henry's DNA testing were among articles brought. Show and tell generates a lot of interest and camaraderie among the members!!

Refreshments were brought by members. Carol Forbes prepared a most attractive table with candles and flowers. All of those goodies loaded with calories were tasty and enjoyed along with a decorated cake which was presented to Sue and Henry thanking them for the many hours of hard work and their dedication to the society. A gift of a book of their choice from a presented selection will be given along with our thanks!!!

It was a good meeting!!

Frances W. Roberson

JETHRO HARRISON CEMETERY

Contributed by William S. Lamm

Located about 1000 ft on the South Side of US 264 and on the East Side of I-95. The cemetery is enclosed by a 30 inch tall concrete wall about 30' x 36,' and it is located next to the fence of I-95. It is maintained and contains 8 graves, 6 with readable head stones. A new metal gate to the cemetery has been installed.

Recorded by William S. Lamm and Elwyn D. Lamm on November 22, 2005

Harrison, Dempsey J. (child)
"Son of Jethro and Nancy Harrison"
Died Oct 18, 1858
"Heaven has claimed its own"
(No birth date given)

Harrison, Harvie (Willie Harvey)
b. Dec 10, 1896
d. Dec 21, 1918
(Harvey was the son of William Henry Harrison and Martha Ann Thorn.)

Harrison, Jethro
Died Mar 30, 1876
"Gone but not forgotten"
(No birth date given, however, based on his marriage license (2nd marriage) and the 1870 census, he was born about 1825.)

Harrison, Nancy (wife of Jethro)
Died Jun 28, 1862
"We trust she is resting in the sunbright cline."
(No birth date given, however, based on the 1860 census, she was born about 1832.)

Harrison, Richard (child)
"Son of Jethro and Nancy Harrison"
Died Jan 29, 1856
(No birth date given)

Harrison, William Henry
b. Jan 3, 1861
d. Mar 27, 1946
(William Henry Harrison was the son of Jethro Harrison and Nancy Ann Williamson.)

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The room is large, attractive, and well arranged. The collection of books and microfilm contained is very extensive, and computers are available to search the internet. The library maintains subscriptions to Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com which you can access there. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The collection of old Wilson photographs was expanded recently with the addition of a donation by Raines and Cox Photographers. Look for the photographs that are on display throughout the library and others that have been cataloged.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM, Thursday through Saturday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Parking is available near the new Broad Street entrance.

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 802
Wilson, NC 27894
252-243-1660
www.wcgs.org

Bridgers, Harrison, Jones, Moore and Skinner Families

January 2006

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Books

___ They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	$15.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	$40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	$30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	$20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) (tax included) **NEW**	$35 .00

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4	$5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872	$5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882	$5.00
___ Wilson County Waterways	$5.00

Miscellaneous

___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	$5.00 shipping included
___ Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper)	$5.00 shipping included
___ 2002 WCGS Calendar (Rock Ridge area)	$5.00
___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township)	$5.00
___ 2004 WCGS Calendar (Stantonsburg)	$5.00
___ 2005 WCGS Calendar (Elm City)	$5.00

Payment and shipping: Shipping cost for each book is $3.00. Shipping cost for maps is $3.00 for 1-4 items.
Add 7% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).
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☐ Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. **I enclose $20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*.** Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. **You may order books & membership through our website. http://www.wcgs.org.**

TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

February 2006 Volume 15 Number 2

President's Message

Hello, Readers,

Our new year began with a very helpful program presented by Ray King, a most engaging speaker. He spoke at our January meeting about researching in "burned counties." The sources that he told us to check could apply to any individual for whom we might want to know more.

Mr. King stressed that we should be looking for a name, a time, and a place. He advised us to look in many different places for references to the ancestor that we need to find.

Included in this issue of *Trees* is an example of a record that provides the name, time, and place for many individuals other than the principle ones indexed for the document. Be sure to look at the Bunyan Barnes Deed of Trust to see if your ancestor is listed. There are 234 names listed within the document.

As with so many documents that we find from an earlier time, this one leaves us wanting to know the rest of the story. The deed indicates that Bunyan was holding notes or credit at the store totaling $5940.89 less credits of less than $300. It further indicates that he had debts totaling $55,001.26. It does not make clear how much of either relate to the store in Black Creek. This seems like an incredible amount of money for this area at that time.

Two things are clear however. Bunyan was a poor business man, and he and his family suffered a major economic and social decline. Our imaginations can visualize what the impact of this event was for this family and the community.

We hope to see you at the February meeting. A good program is scheduled.

Sue Powell

February 28th MEETING

7:00 PM, Wilson County Public Library Conference Room.
Lamms revisited: A cemetery makes a come-back.

Stephen Lamm built his home on (now) Radford Road near Lucama around 1830. A successful farmer and an active local citizen, Stephen and his wife, Laura, had nine children who spread around the area. When he passed on in 1891, he was buried in the family cemetery near his house. Stephen had three sons, six grandsons, and a son-in-law who served in the Civil War, fighting for their rights. (None of them, nor their parents, owned slaves.)

The family cemetery, with 40 known graves, had fallen into an untidy state, so it was determined by some descendents that it should be restored and that markers should be placed in the cemetery for the two youngest sons, Thomas J. and Jonas. Great-grandchildren Sylvia, Ivy, and William Lamm organized the cleanup and the ceremony for October 22, 2005, with the help of the William Dorsey Pender Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

Flags flew, speeches were made, music was played, and a sumptuous buffet was enjoyed by the large number of Stephen's descendents and friends.

Join us February 28th when William Lamm tells us about Lamm Family history and shows us the ceremony honoring his family heritage. He may give you ideas of ways that you can honor your own heritage.

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THIS OLD HOUSE

We will continue with illustrations of properties which have been rescued from oblivion. As we don't have a candidate for this month, we will present some historic properties which are on their last "legs," nearly ready for the bulldozer if something doesn't happen soon. We met with the Historic Properties Commission and viewed the collection which they have assembled. The Commission hopes to develop a buy-out plan whereby the owner of the property would sell a derelict property at minimal cost and then be granted a tax exemption for the rest of the appraised value of the house. The commission would then stabilize the house and offer it for sale through a Realtor. The proceeds of such a sale go into a revolving fund with which to purchase other properties. This seems like a workable plan but lacks leadership to get it moving. As there are no funds for salaries, this would require an experienced professional who would work on a volunteer basis, at least to start with.

Most of these houses are in marginal neighborhoods but could be the sparkplug to pull the neighborhood back. This month we feature a property on Bragg Street at the corner of Bragg and Gray Streets, near to the old Catholic school classroom building. This sturdy old house is on the edge of what was once the upscale neighborhood of Wilson.

Address: 201 Bragg Street

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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FAMILY CONNECTIONS—*WILSON DAILY TIMES*

First Look at the Thomas Family—January 17, 2006

With this column, we begin the eleventh year of publication of Family Connections. The first column ran on January 16, 1996, on the Applewhite family. The one hundred nineteen additional columns since then have sampled a variety of families and topics. A sizeable number of local families originally came from Nansemond County, so we traced the trail from Suffolk through Rich Square and Tarboro to Thomas Farms on Rt. 42 East, one of the earliest settled sites. Strangely enough, we have failed to document the Thomas family, which we will remedy in this month's column. Perhaps the oversight was due to the attention given to the family by the late Hugh Johnston who wrote a similar column for over 20 years. His mother had inherited the original Thomas farm.

The original purpose of the column was to answer questions from readers, and there has been a steady stream of such queries. When there were no queries, we explored topics which we thought would be of interest to readers. In general, the column has been well received and appreciated. One reviewer found fault with a lack of references; this omission is by intent as we intend the column for general readership and not as a genealogical research document. We document everything that we use in the column and keep a file of this documentation. Readers may contact us by e-mail at wcgs@earthlink.net to ask about such documentation. We regret that we cannot answer telephone requests of this nature.

Sometimes we share a reader's quandary, such as the plea for information on the origin of Jethro Harrison. We are still getting responses to that column and sending them on to the reader in California who originated the question. While the answer is still not clear, it seems likely that Jethro came from Nansemond County. Our regular readers already know that the courthouse burned in Suffolk (the Nansemond County seat) on three different occasions, leaving behind a thoroughly hopeless situation. We have yet to find any verification that Jethro did come from Nansemond, other than a local Church record of 1805.

We also get corrections which we are pleased to print. Genealogy is not an exact science, and there is much room for interpretation. In a recent Renfrow column we cited the offspring of William Renfrow as living in Wilson County. One reader has asked that we correct this to read Nash County, with the descendents of James Renfrow still living in Spring Hill Township.

Another reader asked that we amend the Strickland genealogy to show the founder of the family as Ghengis Kahn. We checked the published genealogy of that family, purchased during a visit to the family castle and found no evidence of this in the family records. It is always fun to think that you have a distinguished ancestor even if it is not always provable. One of the more popular historical figures is the Emperor Charlemagne who lived in the 8th century. According to legend, he had four wives and five concubines and a large number of offspring whose bloodlines are spread throughout the western European gene pool. It isn't difficult to find a connection to someone in this pool, assuming that one would want to claim relationship to such an ancestor.

Another reader caught our error in the Bridgers column when we changed the name of the immigrant to James; it was and still is Joseph.

Now for a brief look at the Thomas family, Wilson County's first settlers from about 1740. This Welsh family (no further information as to where in Wales) arrived in Virginia in 1622 aboard the ship "Southampton" and settled in York County. The next generation John

(Continued on page 15)

SARAH "SALLY" FARMER LASSITER

Hugh B. Johnston Farmer Family File

Sarah "Sally" Farmer, daughter of Isaac Farmer and wife Teresa Barnes, was born on October 2, 1831, and died on September 8, 1883. On May 3, 1855, in Wilson County, North Carolina, she married Jackson Lassiter, with Joshua Barnes, Esquire, officiating. Theirs was the first marriage license to be issued in Wilson County. He was born on November 30, 1828, in Nansemond County, Virginia, and died on October 6, 1903, in Wilson County. At the time of the Census of 1860, he was a railroad Overseer on the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad and lived in Oldfield Township. He then owned property valued at $1,225.00. They later resided in Nash County.

Children of Jackson and Sarah (Farmer) Lassiter:

1. Eugenia Lassiter was born on July 20, 1856, and died on May 17, 1872.
2. Josephine Lassiter was born on October 4, 1859.
3. George Washington Lassiter was born March 13, 1862.
4. Wilmoth Lassiter was born November 16, 1864.
5. Mary Ella Lassiter was born January 10, 1867.
6. Emma Lee Lassiter was born September 23, 1870.
7. Andrew Jackson Lassiter was born on October 9, 1874.

*(**Thomas** continued from page 14)*

(1628-1655) moved to Nansemond County in the vicinity of the little river town of Chuckatuck. This was a thriving port in its day, but the harbor silted up and is now a marsh. John's son Richard (1648-1687) lived in adjacent Isle of Wight County in an area called Currowaugh (Welsh for swamp). Richard's son John (1668-1706) married in Nansemond County, and his son John (1705-1788) migrated to Edgecombe (now Wilson) County in 1740 on Toisnot Swamp. An active citizen, John was a justice and militia officer, but mainly he was a Baptist minister. He founded his own church on his property in 1756 which he called Toisnot Church (there is a historical marker on Rt. 42 E at the site). The cemetery of that church remains on the site, now private property, but the church is long gone. The congregation moved into the village of Hickory Grove (now Wilson) by 1850. The original Thomas home was replaced in the late 1800s by a newer farmhouse which still stands along with some of the original farm buildings. Son Jonathan Thomas (1735-1775) is credited with amassing the property now known as Thomas Farms, and his son, Jonathan Jr. (1769-1802) built his home nearby which still stands on Rt. 42 as one of the oldest houses in Wilson County.

There is another old building on the Thomas Farms property that was a mystery for some years. The late Hugh Johnston had referred to it as "Toisnot Church," but it was certain that the original church had been pulled down. The answer finally surfaced when a historical marker was installed to denote the first ABC store in North Carolina on Nash Street. The early records also referred to a "satellite" ABC store on Thomas Farms which was jokingly named "Toisnot Church." This one room frame building still stands near the road, in the midst of some overgrown bushes.

Henry & Sue Powell

BETTIE BRIDGES THOMAS OBITUARY

The Wilson Times, April 18, 1913

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Death of Mrs. Bettie Thomas.

It is with a sad heart I attempt to write the death of my beloved aunt. The deceased was the daughter of the late Jack Bridges and Katherine, his wife. She was born in the year 1851 and departed this life April 15, 1913, making her 61 years old.

Aunt Bettie was first married to John Draughn. To this union was born one child, and God in his wisdom saw fit to take Uncle John from her after they had been married but a few years. She was a widow several years, then was married to William Thomas. To this union was born two children. She was a devoted wife and mother, a kind and loving neighbor, was always ready and willing to help the needy.

Aunt Bettie was in very poor health for several years, but was not confined to her bed but a short time, while, as she died with paralysis. All was done for [her] that could be done, yet it was God's will to take her out of this world of trouble and care. While we mourn for her and miss her so much yet we have the blessed hope that she is now sweetly resting in the arms of our beloved Saviour.

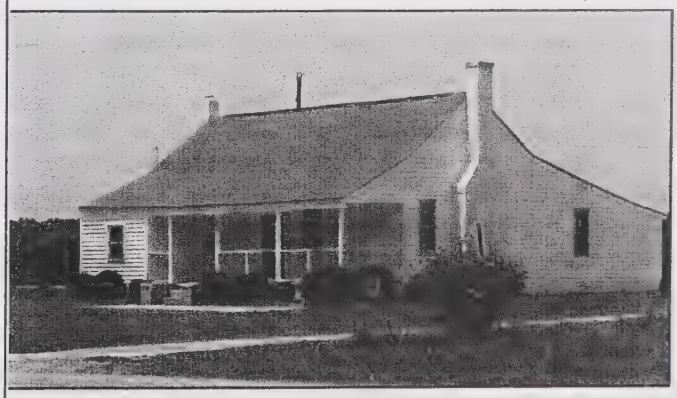
Three children Messrs Paul, Roscoe and Thomas and Mrs. Mack Page, 10 grandchildren, two sisters and a host of relatives are left to mourn their loss.

She was laid away Sunday afternoon in the family burying ground in the presence of a large crowd of friends and relatives.

We must all look to God in our bereavement, for he alone can heal broken and wounded hearts.

Written by her loving niece,

Mrs. C. L. Bridges.
Elm City, N. C.



Home of Jonathan Thomas, Jr. built 1801. Located on Rt. 42 east of Wilson at Tartts Mill Road. Note the small room at the end of the porch. This was known as "the preacher's room."

DEATHS FROM TARBORO NEWSPAPERS

Barnes Amason died in Stantonsburg on April 13, 1844, aged about twenty-eight years.

Roderick Amason died in Edgecombe County on December 30, 1844.

Thomas Amason died near Jameston, Alabama, on January 4, 1843, being formerly of Edgecombe County.

BUNYAN BARNES' DEED OF TRUST

Wilson County Deed Book 1, Page 1

Transcribed by Sue Evans Powell

[Editor's note: This, the first deed recorded in the newly established Wilson County, was written as one paragraph. To assist in reading what was five and a half ledger size pages, it has been presented here with lists and tables.]

Whereas the undersigned Bunyan Barnes is Justly indebted to divers persons herein after named and whereas the Said Bunyan Barnes is honestly desireous of Secureing and providing for the payment of Said debts now therefore, This Indenture made this twentieth day of April in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred & fifty five between the said Bunyan Barnes of the first part and Jonathan Barnes and James H. Barnes[1] of the Second part all of the County of Wilson witnesseth that the Said Bunyan Barnes, for and in consideration of the Sum of one dollar to him paid by the Said Jonathan Barnes and James H. Barnes has bargained & Sold & by these presents does bargain Sell & convey to the said Jonathan Barnes and James H. Barnes and their heirs the following property viz—

- one tract of Land in Johnston County adjoining the lands of Sally Pierce & others known as the Clrasey Pierce[2] place, in which the said Bunyon owns only a life Estate as tennant by the courtesy containing about two hundred acres,
- another tract in Wilson County Called the John Rowe tract adjoining the lands of Stephen Woodard, A. G. Brooks & others containing about three hundred & Seventy acres, and
- another tract in Wilson County, called the Aycock Land, adjoining the lands of Celia Mayo & others, containing about one hundred acres, also
- the home tract of land[3] on which the Said Bunyon resides containing three hundred & Seventy acres more or less adjoining the lands of Celia Mayo & others Situated in the County of Wilson,
- the following Slaves, Peter, Reubin, Joe, Rufus, Henry, Ben, Britt, Tamer, & Vilet, and
- the following Slaves hired till 1st January 1856 viz— Rose Lewis & Harry,
- The following Stock viz—Seven Horses, Seven mules, thirty Eight Cattle, one hundred & Sixty hogs, twelve Sheep & five lambs,

one cotton Gin,
one corn & cob crusher,
two cutting knives,
one corn sheller,
one Dutch fan,
one set of Black Smith tools,
one carriage,
three wagons,
four carts & wheels,
one Side board
five trunks,
two book cases,
one desk,
one mahogany table;
two walnut tables,
six pine tables,
one bureau,
two safes,
one Cook Stove,
one loom,
two clocks
two large looking Glasses,
corn fodder on hand,
one lot of Brick,
brick mortice machine,
one lot of plank at the home place & lot of raw hides,
four pair of brick moulds,
two Shares of Stock in the Wilmington & Raleigh, now Weldon, Rail Road Company,
two Shares of Stock in the Wilmington & Manchester Rail Road Company,
Household & kitchen furniture with the exception of all such articles, as by law are exempt from execution
one turpentine Still & fixtures at Beulah in Johnston County—
one *do* at Ichabod Pearsons in Wilson County—
one *do* at Black Creek, in Said County—
one brandy Still—
one Iron Safe,
a number of Spirit barrels at Black Creek,
lot of Staves & heading at Black Creek
one lot of Coopers tools—
Stock of goods in Store at Black Creek,[4]
right to lot of ground on which Store Stands at Black Creek being a lease—
farming tools—

- Claims against Bryant Hinnant for money collected out of Warren Bailey,
- about ninety dollars claim against W. H. Privet for which Suit is pending in Wayne County Court,
- Claims against W. S. Ballenger for which Suit is pending in Wayne Superior Court—
- all accounts due on the books at the Store at Black Creek, against divers persons for divers amounts—
- the following notes viz.—

NAME	*AMOUNT*	*INTEREST FROM*	*CREDIT*
Wilie Woodard	$105.60	1st January 1854	
H. Crumpler	$ 10.30	1st January 1854	
Elias Ferrall	$ 2.81	6th January 1852	
H. R. Davis	$ 30.75	1st January 1854	
John Ferrell	$ 39. 70	1st January 1854	
Elias Ferrall	$ 5.07	3rd January 1848	
Elias Ferrall	$ 16.79	1st January 1850	
Gabriel Ferrall	$ 28.51	1st January 1855	
Spencer Watson	$ 55.98	1st January 1855	
R W Edmundson	$ 21.47	1st January 1855	
B. T. Aycock	$ 12.50	1st November 1852	
Henry Meaks	$ 3.75		
John Perish	$ 4.77	1st January 1855	
Josiah Jones	$ 4.11	1st January 1846	
Wilson Rentfro	$ 7.44	1st January 1853	
Thomas Haddly	$ 2.25	17 August 1845	
Wm Sasser	$ 2.99	1st January 1852	
Ephraim Watson	$ 15.85	1st January 1854	

NAME	AMOUNT	*INTEREST FROM*	*CREDIT*
S Parker	$ 4.30	1 Jan (page torn)	
Josiah Watson	$ 24.13	Jan. 02 1852	
Thomas Deance	$ 29.34	22nd Feby 1854	
Riley Lucas	$ 17.78	1st Jany 1854	
Jonas Lamb	$ 11.91	1st Jany 1854	
John Mathis	$ 89.07	1st January 1851	
Stanly Kirby	$ 20.53	1st January 1851	
Nelson Rowe	$ 18.74	1st January 1851	
Dempsey Rose	$ 23.27	1st January 1851	
Robrt Holland	$ 21.41	1st January 1852	
Dempsey Rose	$ 27.50	1st January 1852	
Elisha Pope	$ 50.00	14th September 1848	
Elisha Pope	$ 20. 25	13th March 1847	
Elisha Pope	$ 34.31	1st January 1848	
Wm Pope	$ 4.55	1st January 1852	
Lawrence Moore	$ 12.95	1st January 1848	$ 5.25
John Pope	$ 56.31	1st January 1854	
John Ginley	$ 6.83	1st January 1852	
Robert Hall	$ 9.38	1st January 1852	
Wilson Hagens	$ 1.66	1st January 1851	
Dempsey Hall	$ 4.66	1st January 1852	
Hillory Hagens	$ 8.07	1st January 1852	
N. S. Cobb	$ 2.77	1st January 1851	
Jesse Mayo	$ 8.72	11th August 1849	
Gabriel Ferrall	$ 28.83	1st January 1851	
Henry Dickerson	$ 15.02	1st January 1845	
Rufus Barefoot	$ 12.96	1st Jany 1853	
Joseph Moore	$ 37.73	19th August 1854	
A. R. Lamb	$ 5.82	1st January 1854	
Josephus Moore	$ 80.00	1st January 1850	
Pitts Kirby	$ 7.30	1st January 1855	
Henry Davis	$ 2.82	1st January 1851	
Alsey Stott	$ 6.50	1st January 1846	
Jack Downing	$ 8.13	1st January 1854	
David Artist	$ 14.42	1st January 1852	
David Parish	$ 11.53	1st January 1855	
Wm R. Bass	$ 45.97	1st January 1853	
Soloman Andrews	$ 19.15	1st November 1851	
A. H. Atkinson	$ 4.33	1st January 1852	
Irrday Boyet	$ 92.28	1st January 1851	
Elias Bass	$ 46.26	1st January 1854	
Jessee G Boswell	$ 19.05	1st January 1854	
Benjamin Barnes	$ 55.80	8th Oct 1851	
Elias Bass	$ 77.26	1st January 1852	
Joel Boyett	$ 20.87	1st January 1851	
Wm Barnes	$ 57.04	August 17th 1852	
William Barnes	$134.80	11th December 1851	
Bardin Bass	$ 22.92	1st January 1851	
Simon Boswell	$ 9.36	1st January 1852	
Dempsey Boykin	$ 13.93	1st Jany 1847	
Peter L. Barnes	$ 15.20	1st January 1854	
Needham R Fail	$131.96	1st January 1853	
John Ferrall	$ 1.00	22nd Jany 1850	
John S. Williams	$ 22.49	1st January 1852	
J W Smith	$ 5.15	1st Jany 1854	
Hilliard Lewis	$ 14.17	13th Decr. 1850	
Perry Lucas	$ 6.00	12th Febry 1848	
Tobias Lamb	$ 13.00	8th March 1847	

NAME	*AMOUNT*	*INTEREST FROM*	*CREDIT*
Simon Watson	$ 16.92	1st Jany 1854	
Williamson Hinnant	$ 73.62	1st Jany 1847	
Charles Deans	$ 46.55	13th Oct 1851	
J D Cawthorn	$ 28.72	1st January 1847	
Thomas Rose	$ 6.41	18th Oct 1849	
Benja Lucas	$ 11.93	1st January 1852	
Wm Sasser	$ 9.49	1st January 1851	
Nathaniel Moore	$ 13.37	1 January 1854	
Wm Mumpford	$ 33.62	1st July 1857	
Wm Mumpford	$ 24.97	1 January 1852	
Ray Philips	$ 30.00	30 July 1852	
B R Hinnant	$ 6.70	15th Novr 1848	
Thomas Morris	$ 8.23	18 May 1854	
John Pope	$ 57.65	31st Dec 1852	
A G Brooks	$ 50.00	1 January 1853	
Henry Kerby	$ 1.92	10th Sept 1849	
Esomsom Kerby	$ 16.60	28th February 1852	
J H Hinnant	$ 3.18	11th September 1849	
William Watson	$ 37.61	1 January 1851	
James Faulk	$251.09	14th February 1855	
G. W. Pool	$275.17	20th July 1854	
Martin Langley	$ 4.50	6th Nov 1848	
Alsey Perry	$ 90.00	25th August 1852	
Roberson Raper	$ 39.03	15th August 1849	
John Robinson	$10.00	15th Decr 1849	
Elias Barnes	$ 1.57	27th March 1852	
Henry Meeks	$ 10.40	18th October 1845	
Harris Boykin	$ 17.27	1 January 1845	
Roberson Raper	$ .50	27th Febry 1846	
Calvin Raper	$ 16.00	30th Feby 1853	
John G Woodard	$ 4.50	19th Febry 1848	
Ichabod Pearson	$ 6.54	1st Apl 1850	
Wilie Woodard	$ 10.00	2nd January 1849	
Stanly Kerby	$106.17	25th Sept. 1853	
Josephus Moore	$ 2.43	26th Decr 1844	
J H Hinnant	$ 10.96	January 1849	
Tobias Boykin	$ 20.26	1st January 1845	
Rufus Barnes	$144.70	1st January 1853	$140.00
Rufus Sillivant	$ 14.52	1st January 1851	
Benja Barnes	$100.00	22nd May 1852	$ 95.00
Wilie Grizzle	$ 9.35	26th July 1845	
Noel Barnes	$ 5.69	14th July 1844	
Noel Barnes	$ 11.78	21st April 1849	
R H Baker	$ 55.00	20th Decr 1847	
Thomas Hinnant	$ 35.00	1st January 1851	
Tobias Boykin & S. Boykin	$ 3.00	7th March 1843	
Stanly Kerby	$196.62	22nd Jany 1850	
Farmer Barefoot	$ 45.00	4th July 1850	
Wm Barnes	$ 39.70	13th Feby 1851	$23.00
Elias Ferrall	$ 6.00	15th July 1854	
Jordan Boyet	$ 80.30	18th Jany 1845	
Lewis Williams	$ 4.34	23rd September 1846	
Simon Newsom	$ 36.05		
Elias Barnes	$ 9.60	24th Febry 1853	
John G. Woodard	$ .40	9th Janry 1850	
David Tomlinson	$ 1.50	1st Febry 1845	
N. B. Fail	$ 77.16	16th March 1855	

NAME	AMOUNT	INTEREST FROM	CREDIT
G. A. Bryant	$ 65.86	10th March 1855	
Jno L. Bishop	$ 21.70	6th Jany 1854	
Simon Boswell	$110.04	1st January 1854	
Soloman Andrews	$ 5.69	25th July 1844	
Jesse Aycock	$ 23.44	1st Decr. 1854	
Joseph Page	$ 10.50	27th August 1853	
Elias Barnes	$ 3.00	11th Decr. 1852	
Elias Barnes	$ 1.00	28th Decr. 1852	
Josiah Shielby	$ 3.85	2nd Decr 1847	
Jno. Rountree	$ 4.50	1st January 1846	
Willie A Boykin	$ 1.48	1st January 1846	
Jno. S. Boykin	$ 7.02	2nd Decr. 1847	
Charles Deans	$ 19.76	1st January 1848	
Irvin Boykin	$ 18.37	1st January 1847	
Wilson Retfrow	$ 8.41	1st January 1845	
Duncan Flowers	$ 42.75	6th Decr. 1847	
Mabry Hinnant	$ 5.50	1st January 1847	
H. W.	$ 10.54	1st January 1852	
Wm Hinnant	$ 24.82	1st July 1852	
E Barnes	$ 2.33	10th January 1853	
Wm J. Rouse	$100.00	8th Novr. 1854	
S. B. Turnage	$355.00	10th April 1855	
S. B. & N. T. Turnage	$335.18	10th April 1855	
Wm Bass	$ 30.00	19th June 1854	
James Sasser	$ 28.63	1st January 1855	

Receipt of James Hinnant Constable for the following Notes viz:

NAME	AMOUNT	INTEREST FROM
Willie Taylor	$ 6.33	1st January 1852
B. Silivant	$ 16.80	1st January 1854
W Rentfrow	$ 14.64	31st August 1849
S. Hinnant	$ 15.24	1st January 1852
S. Godwin	$ 33.09	25th January 1853
Isaac Boyet	$ 8.71	1st January 1854

H. Sassers account 45 cents
Account on Wm C. Barnes for $438.54

All the interest of the Said Bunyan in the late firm of Barnes & Barden[4] Suits for the Settlement of which are pending in Wayne Court of Equity To have to hold the Said property to the said Jonathan Barnes & James H Barnes, their heirs, Executors & administrators. In Special trust & confidence nevertheless that the Said Jonathan Barnes & James H. Barnes Shall proceed to collect the above claims and Shall advertise the other property for the Space of twenty days at the town of Wilson & Goldsboro and publick places and Shall expose the Same to Sale at public auction on a Credit of Six twelve or Eighteen months with interest from date takeing bonds with Surety for the purchase money and with the money that Shall first come into their hands they Shall retain the necessary Expenses & commissions and then pay the following Debts. viz.

- in the first place to pay the following pro rata a note to W. Harris Guardian &l for $296 Due the 1st Day of January 1855, to which Said Bunyan is principal and James Daniel & Burket Barnes are Sureties,
- two Debts to Dollner & Patten of New York amounting to about $7800
- a note to Jonathan Barnes for $191.67 with interest from the 2nd day of December 1854
- a note to Benjamin Aycock for $421.36 with interest from 3rd March 1853 Subject to a credit of $120 17th day of May 1853
- a note to Joseph Edwards Guardian &l for $100 due 1st day of January 1854 with interest from date of 1st January 1853 to which Bunyan Aycock is Surety
- note to Jesse Bass for $1489.55 Due 20th January 1853 to which Jonathan Barnes is Surety
- a note payable to John Loftin for $1000 Due 1st Day of January 1855 to which L. T. Daniel is Surety and one which there is a balance due of Something over $500
- a note payable to T. W. Whitley Gdn, &l now in possession of A. G. Brooks for $2844.85 bearing date November 1847 to which Jonathan Barnes & Burket Barnes are Sureties Subject to a credit of $300 September 22nd 1852 and a credit of $150 April 1st 1854
- an account to Petway Cartright for $90
- an account to William Ralon for $60
- an account to Henry Anderson for $300
- an account to Isaac Stevens for $103.50
- an account to Levi Anderson for $249
- an account to Ben Hardy for $60
- an account to Richard Cartright for $30
- an account to Benjamine Hatt for $72 the Said account being only approximated and not Stated exactly
- a note payable to Walter S. Land for $350 interest from 1st January 1855 with James Daniel & Burket Barnes as Sureties
- a note to E. B. Cox for $300 due 1st January 1854 to which Wm. H. Washington & L. T. Daniel are Sureties and on which there is a credit Endorsed of $155 4th January 1854
- a note to Burket Barnes for $200 with interest from 1st Day of January 1854
- a note to James H Barnes for $175 with interest from 1st January 1853
- a note to Elias Pope for $225 with interest from 1st Day of January 1853
- a note payable to T. W. Whitley Gdn. &l now in possession of Adam Heath for $2844.85 bearing date in November 1847 with Several credits endorsed amounting to Something over $1900
- a note to James H. Barnes for $860.74 with interest from 1st day of March 1854
- a note to James H Barnes for $571.70 with interest from 1st day of October 1854
- another note to James H. Barnes for $1067.16 with interest from 1st January 1855
- note Reubin Bynum for $695.18 with interest from July 12th 1854 to which Jonathan Barnes & Burket Barnes are Sureties
- a note to Probert Scott for $189.74 Due 31st January 1854 with Jonathan Barnes as one of the Sureties;
- a note to Wm. K. Lane for $56 Due 31st January 1855

(Continued on Page 103)

with Jonathan Barnes as one of the Sureties;

- an account due J. H. Farmer for $5000;
- a note to A. G. Persons for $236 Due 31st January 1855 with W. N. Barnes the Surety thereto
- one note to Exum Jenkins for $1000 due 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes & James Daniel Sureties;
- a note to said Jenkins for $800 due 1st January 1856, with Burket Barnes & L. T. Daniel Sureties;
- a note to Ned Dardin (probably Edward) of Virginia for $600 due 1st January 1855 with James Daniel & Burket Barnes as Sureties;
- a note to John T. Barnes for $215.86 due January 1st 1855
- one other note to John T. Barnes for $300 due January 10th 1855
- a note to Jethro W Aycock for $1086.49, interest from 1st January 1855;
- one other to said Jethro W. for $448.96, interest from April 12th 1855;
- a note to Isaac Langston for $600 interest from 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes & James Daniel Sureties
- a note to said Isaac for $480 interest from 1st January 1856; with Burket Barnes & Larry T. Daniel Sureties;
- a note to J. S. Holland for $400 interest from 1st January 1855, with Burket Barnes & James Daniel as Sureties
- a note Meredeth Watkins for $200 interest from 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes & James Daniel Sureties,
- a note to C. H. Claiborn for $500 interest from January 1st A. D. 1856,
- a note Uriah Rawls for $175 interest from January 1st 1855, with James Daniel & Burket Barnes as Sureties,
- a note to Joshuay Barnes for $1089.68 with interest from the third day of September A. D. 1847 with Burket Barnes, Jonathan Barnes & Wm. N. Barnes as Sureties Subject to credit of $300 on the 4th day of July A. D. 1853,
- a note to Dickson Spivey for $1505.50 interest from 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes Surety,
- a note to O. Coor for $150 interest from August 21st 1851,
- a note to Dr. Malone of Louisburg for $1575 interest from 1st January 1856 with Jonathan Barnes & Burket Barnes as Sureties,
- a note to Wood T. Johnson for $700 interest from 1st January 1856 with Burket Barnes & Jonathan Barnes Sureties,
- a note to Jordan Jones for $700 interest from 1st of January 1856 with Burket Barnes & Jonathan Barnes as Sureties,
- a note to Daniel S. Hill for $875 interest from 1st of January 1856 with Burket Barnes & Jonathan Barnes Sureties;
- a note to Jonathan B. Davis for $500 interest as before
- a note to Jonathan B. Davis for $1050 interest as before
- a note to Wood T. Johnson for $1200 interest from 1st January 1855 with James Daniel & Burket Barnes Sureties,
- a note to Daniel S. Hill for $600 interest from 1st of January 1855 with James Daniel & Burket Barnes Sureties,
- a note to J. F. Allen for $200 interest from 1st January 1855 with James Daniel & Burket Barnes as Sureties
- a note to Benjamin Simms for $1356.57 interest from 16th January 1850,
- another note to Said Simms for $159.20 interest from January 15th 1851 Due bill to Said Simms for $11.83 interest from December 11th 1854,
- a note to Elias D Pope for $64.43 interest from 20th March 1855,
- a note to Benjah Scott for $450.41 interest from 20th December A. D. 1854 with Elias D. Pope as Surety,
- a note to Albert Aycock for $213.01 interest from 31st May 1853,
- one other note to Same for $78 interest from 7th April 1855
- an account in favor of Same for $89.45,
- a note and account to Dr Lewis J Dortch for $165 for the years 1850 & 1851
- a note to Ruffin H. Lanier for $200 interest from 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes & James Daniel as Sureties,
- a note to James Daniel Gdn. &l for $421.07 interest from 25th of February 1854 Subject to a credit of $248.45 dated the 1st of January 1855,
- a note to Larry T. Daniel for $1000 with interest from January 1st 1855
- a note to Grooms H Barnes for $1100 with interest from 1st of January 1855,
- a note to Daniel Insco for $200 interest from 1st of January 1855
- one other to Same for $300 interest from 1st January 1856,
- one to William Insco for $175 interest from 1st of January 1856,
- a note payable to John Everett for $160 interest from 1st January 1855 with Burket Barnes and Jonathan Barnes as Sureties,
- and also any other Claims or demands against Said Bunyon which may come to the Knowledge of Said Jonathan Barnes & James H. Barnes to which Said Claims any of the Sureties aforesaid may be Sureties Excepting Burket Barnes,

And after all the debts Shall have been fully paid up then said Jonathan Barnes and James H. Barnes Shall out of the moneys then in their hands if any pay the following Debts pro rata to wit:

- a note to Josiah Barnes for $650.85 interest from 18th of April 1855,
- a note to Jonathan Bass for $179.19 interest from 14th of April 1855,
- a note to Arthur Bass for $136.80 interest from April 6th 1855,
- a note to Stephen Woodard for $1773.50 interest from February 12th 1855
- a note to Jesse Sauls for $148.12 interest from 3rd of February 1855,
- a note to Joseph Farrall for $197.61 due January 1st 1855,

- a note to Charity Newsom for $1184.71, interest from 25th December 1854 with Burket Barnes as Surety,
- a note to Arthur Bass for $81.08 interest from 1st of January 1855,
- a note to Willie Simms for $1181.18 interest from July 12th 1854;
- a note to David Davis for about $400 interest from August 1854
- an account to Andrew E. Gill for $365.30 up to the 19th of April 1855,
- a note to John Dew for $243.25 interest from July 14th 1852
- a note to Best & Taylor for $158.36 interest from 23rd of February 1855,

In testmony whereof the Said Bunyon Barnes party of the first party and Jonathan Barnes & James H Barnes parties of the Second part have hereunto Set their hands and Seal this 20th day of April A. D. 1855

Witness — Bunyan Barnes
H King — Jno. Barnes
James H. Barnes

State of North CarolinaTerm of Wilson
Wilson County Apl. 24th A. D. 1855
Then was the foregoing deed of Trust from Bunyan Barnes to Jonathan Barnes and James H. Barnes duly proven before me Washington Barnes Clerk of the Court of Please & Quarter Session of Said County by the oath of H King the Subscribing Witness thereto Let Said Deed be registered

Washington Barnes Clerk

Received for Registration the foregoing deed of Trust on Tuesday the 24th of April A. D. 1855 at the hour of Quarter after Ten A. M.

L J Sauls Register

Endnotes:

1. Bunyan Barnes was the son of John and Mary Newsome Barnes. His brothers were Jonathan, William, and Burkett. It is believed by this writer that it was his brother Jonathan who helped to resolve the financial difficulties of Bunyan. Jonathan Barnes had a son James, born in 1830, and the Wilson County 1860 Census lists James H. Barnes, age 30, living in Black Creek District.
2. The name should be Clarky Pearce. Rhoda Barnes, wife of Bunyan Barnes, was Rhoda Pool, daughter of William and Rhoda Pearce Pool, from Johnston County. This same deed of trust was filed in Johnston County, and the name was recorded as Clarky Pierce in their deed book.
3. It has been recorded by some persons that the family of Bunyan Barnes lived on the John Rowe tract of land. This transcriber was very careful to record this portion of the text as it was written. The word was clearly "home" not "Rowe."
4. In *Black Creek: The First One Hundred Years* prepared by the Black Creek Historical Society in 1984, the store is discussed in detail. A four-volume set of ledgers of the firm of Barnes and Bardin listing purchases of credit customers can be found in North Carolina Archives. The first ledger is noted as commencing November 27, 1839, and the fourth starts on June 13, 1843.

The first court reference to the store was in Wayne County August Court 1838 when Authur Bardin paid $4.00 for a store tax. There was an entry in August 1839 Court minutes for a $4.00 tavern license paid by Hays and Bardin and a $6.00 store license by the same firm with no indication of the identity of either partner.

It is believed that Arthur Bardin, having sold a right-of-way to the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad Company, decided to capitalize on the knowledge of the location of the future railroad. He opened a store along the right-of-way near where a road would cross the railroad. It is believed to have been at the southern end of the present town of Black Creek.

The August 1840 Court minutes record a $4.00 tavern tax paid by J. Barnes and A. Bardin. (It is believed that J. Barnes was James Barnes.)

In November 1840, a post office was established at Bardin's Depot, and Bunyan Barnes was appointed as postmaster. The ledgers of Barnes and Bardin show numerous entries for postage. It may be assumed that the post office was located within the store.

The February 1841 Court listing was for $12.00 for a store license for Barnes and Bardin, and a tavern license of $4.00. Again in August Court 1842, the store license was $4.00. There was not a record of license payment in August Court 1843.

The Wayne County Register of Deeds Office, Book 19, Page 343, contains a record made January 9, 1844, of an indenture in which "Arthur Bardin leased to Bunyan Barnes, for a term of fifteen years, a one acre lot on the east side of the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad and on the south side of the Avenue Road leading from the place known as 'Bardin's Depot.' "

A lease by Arthur Bardin to Bunyan Barnes was registered in May Court of 1844. A payment by Benjamin Bardin of $4.00 for a tavern license was recorded in August Court 1844. In 1845, a store license was issued to Bunyan Barnes for $8.00, and a retail license was issued to him for $4.00. Bunyan Barnes served as postmaster for fifteen years (the end coinciding with the date of this deed of trust).

Bunyan Barnes was recorded as a merchant in the Wayne County 1850 Census. His son William was listed as a clerk, possibly working for his father. Jethro Aycock, who lived in the household, was also listed as a clerk.

In the 1860 Wilson County Census, Bunyan Barnes was recorded as a farmer with two hundred acres of farmland.

Bunyan Barnes married first to Elizabeth Copeland, and they had one son William C., born January 10, 1829. Elizabeth died in 1830, and Bunyan married Rhoda Pool before the Johnston County February Court of 1831 when he was listed as guardian of his wife Rhoda. Bunyan and Rhoda had eleven children: Groomes H., born March 5, 1832; Spencer C., born October 28, 1833; Jesse, born February 20, 1835; Rebecca Faye, born May 7, 1836; Harriet Cardine, born March 1, 1838; Louisa, born in 1842; Penelope, born in 1845; Christopher Columbus, born about 1844-47; Mary, born about 1845; Burkett W., born June 3, 1849; and Jonathan, born August 31, 1851.

BENJAMIN ARTIS FAMILY

Contributed by Lisa Y. Henderson

BENJAMIN ARTIS

Born 1824, Greene County, N. C.?; married Ferebee Woodard (1828-September 30, 1905), Edgecombe (now Wilson) County, N. C.?; died October 2, 1905, Wilson County

Children: Benjamin, Jr., Debby, Sarah, Della, Julia Ann, Mary, Jesse

Notes: His last name would indicate that Benjamin Artis was freeborn, but he does not appear in the 1850 or 1860 censuses. His wife, a "granny woman" or midwife, was a daughter of London and Venus Woodard, who were owned by James Bullock Woodard. (London Woodard founded London's Primitive Baptist Church.) The Artis family, members of Oaken Grove Primitive Baptist Church, lived in Gardner's Township in Wilson County. Benjamin acquired real property before 1870, and bought an additional 19½ acres in 1872. Benjamin was buried in the London Woodard graveyard on land purchased by London Woodard's freeborn second wife, Penelope Lassiter.

2nd Generation

BENJAMIN ARTIS, JR.

Born in 1850 in Edgecombe County, N. C.?; married Ferebee Barnes (1850-?), December 20, 1870, in Wilson County; died before 1900

Children:

- Harriet "Hattie," born 1879, married James Simms, died September 12, 1943
- Morrison "Bud," born 1880, married Mattie Thomas,[1] Odessa Reid
- Silas, born July 1885, died after 1970
- Louvenia, married Turner Hayes
- Wade, born May 1888, married Martha ___

Notes: Benjamin Artis, Jr., recorded several real estate transactions in the 1880's in Wilson County.

DEBBY ARTIS

Born June 28, 1854, in Edgecombe County, N. C.; married Orren Sharpe (1856-1929), in 1879, in Wilson County; died February 20, 1919, in Wilson County

Children:

- James Haywood Artis, born January 12, 1872, died June 20, 18?3
- Larry, born 1876, married Bessie Guest, died October 4, 1953[2]
- Robert, born January 22, 1881, married Annie Woodard, died January 17, 1947[3]
- Meadie, born 1883, married Winnie Artis, died Oct. 1, ?
- Gray, born October 30, 1889, married Mary Woodard, died January 22, 1961[4]
- William Ann "Annie," born February 1891, married Henry Barnes, Henry Lane, died after 1970
- Roman, born March 23, 1896, married Mattie Bynum, died May 1, 1938

Notes: The father of Debby's son James was white—Eason Colburn Thomas (1846-1905), son of Hilliard and Nancy Todd Thomas. Orren Sharpe was the son of Orren and Mary Melton Batts.

SARAH ARTIS

Born December 31, 1855, in Wilson County; married (1) Balaam Bynum, (2) Richard Bynum; died October 24, 1929

Children—none

Notes: She married April 11, 1879, at the "Steam Mill" to Balaam Bynum, pastor of Oaken Grove Primitive Baptist Church

JULIA ANN "Jude" ARTIS

Born September 25, 1864, in Wilson County; married (1) Columbus "Lum" Thompson, (2) Wade Barnes (1845-1934), in Wilson County; died April 28, 1960, in Wilson County

Children:

- Mary Jane Thompson, born April 26, 1886
- Martha Jane Thompson, born April 26, 1886, married Joe Barnes, died April 15, 1909[5]
- Frank Barnes, born December 4, 1888
- Ned Barnes, born March 15, 1890, married Sally Simms, died after 1970[6]

Notes: Julia and Lum Thompson lived near Lucama, N. C., in southern Wilson County. Her second husband was a son of Silas and Rosetta Farmer Barnes. They lived near Elm City, N. C., in northern Wilson County.

MARY ARTIS

Born June 5, 1867, in Wilson County; married Wiley Westray, February 4, 1885, in Wilson County; died July 26, 1951, in Elm City, N. C.

Children: Benjamin, Willie, Wiley

Notes: Wiley Westray was a minister. They moved to Washington, D. C., but she returned to Wilson County after his death.

JESSE ARTIS

Born 1872 in Wilson County; married Patsy Ann Hines (1869-1922) in Wilson County; died December 10, 1922, in Wilson County

Children:

- James, born February 1881, married Louvenia Pleasant, Pauline Woodard, died May 6, 1931
- Barney, never married
- Emma, married Stiley Moore
- Dora, never married

Notes: Patsy Ann Hines was the daughter of Charles Hines of Edgecombe County.

Endnotes:

1. Wife Mattie was a daughter of Peter and Margaret Thomas. Bud was a deacon at the church founded by his grandfather London Woodard.
2. Children included: Edward (1922-1950) and Arthur Lee Guest (1932-1941)
3. Children included: Mary (1911-1932), Willie (1913-1961), and Robert Sharpe, Jr. (1920-1963)
4. Children included: Connie (1917-1960), and Ervin Sharpe (1919-1920)
5. Husband Joe was a son of Wilson "Wilse" Barnes. Martha and Joe Barnes had one child, Frank Barnes, born January 29, 1909.
6. Ned Barnes married Sally Simms, daughter of Ben Rawls and Mary Knight Bullock, on December 12, 1917. Sallie Simms, born April 1, 1900, was reared by Jim and Hattie Simms. (Harriet "Hattie" Artis Simms was Ned's first cousin.) Ned served with the 344th Labor Battalion in the European Theatre during World War I. Ned and Sally Barnes lived at the corner of Pender and Dixon Streets in Elm City, N. C., in the 1970's.

ISAAC FARMER, SR.

From the files of Hugh Buckner Johnston

Isaac Farmer, Sr., son of Thomas Farmer and wife Agnes Nicholson, was born in 1711 in Surry County, Virginia, and died in 1770 in Edgecombe (now Wilson) County, North Carolina, being buried in a corner of the woods and up the hill from Toisnot Swamp. (His home stood three or four hundred feet east of the graveyard.) His mother married secondly James Bynum who brought the family to North Carolina. Isaac Farmer apparently married in 1741 Elizabeth Braswell in the southeastern part of the present Halifax County.[1]

On March 5, 1742/43, Isaac Farmer paid James Farmer (his brother) £10 current Virginia money for 120 acres adjoining Nicholas Porter and Deep Creek in Edgecombe County; witnessed by James Binum and John Jenkins.[2] On November 16, 1743, he appeared before the North Carolina Council in session in Edenton, declaring three white headrights and was "admitted to prove his Rights in order to his taking up Land" in the aforesaid County.[3] On February 20, 1744, the Edgecombe County Court ordered him to help work the public road from Mr. Blount's to the Tar River Road; and on August 20, 1745, William Merritt was appointed overseer of "the Road from the mouth of Caney branch to the old Mill & from thence to Deep Creek Bridge & from Isaac Farmers to Archibald Stevenson," and to "forthwith Open Clar and maintain the s^{d}. Road from Killingsworths ferry to the fork of Tarr River Road."[4]

On May 6, 1756, Isaac Farmer patented 268 acres of land adjoining himself and Samuel Whiten [Whitney].[5] There is no record of an earlier patent in his name, and this land lay north from Tarboro and probably east of Deep Creek and not far from the Bridge. On December 20, 1760, Isaac Farmer of Halifax County sold to Matthew Joyner for £45 current Virginia money the 120-acres purchase, and for £20 the 268-acres patent, both deeds being witnessed by Absalom Merritt, Samuel Whitney, and Thomas Merritt.[6] On March 2, 1761, he paid John Stevens £10 Virginia money for 200 acres in a patent at Bracewell's corner north of Tosneot Swamp in lower Edgecombe County; witnessed by Nicholas Bynum.[7] This land lay immediately west of the Thomas Upper Plantation and was owned by his descendants for several generations.

On January 12, 1768, the Edgecombe County Court appointed Isaac Farmer Overseer of Roads for the area immediately east and west of his home.[8] On February 25, 1770, shortly before his death, Isaac Farmer, Sr., deeded to Isaac Farmer, Jr. for £?0 Proclamation Money the home plantation of 200 acres north of Tosneot Swamp; witnessed by Jesse Farmer, Zachariah Lee, and William Blackburn.[9] This was the same tract deeded on March 15, 1800, by Isaac Farmer, Jr., to his son John Farmer;[10] and on February 24, 1853, it was divided into nine small tracts and allotted to the children of said John Farmer.[11]

As a matter of passing interest , John Whitney on February 18, 1772, sold to Tobias Whitehead 300 acres in Halifax County north of Deep Creek and bounded by William Whitehead, the old Isaac Farmer line, William Whitaker, and Myrtle Pocoson, with the dower rights on the same being released by Whitney's mother Agniss (A) Fort.[12] It would seem that Samuel Whitney had married Agnes Bynum, daughter of James Bynum and wife Agnes Nicholson.

Children of Isaac and Elizabeth (Braswell) Farmer:

1. Thomas Farmer (1742-January 1785).
2. Lucy Farmer (born 1744) married Zachariah Lee on October 11, 1763, bonded by Thomas Farmer.
3. Jesse Farmer (1746-1812).
4. Isaac Farmer, Jr. (1748-January 1805).
5. Joseph Farmer, Esq. (1750-October 12, 1794).
6. Priscilla Farmer (1762) married Daniel Wood.
7. Samuel Farmer (May 13, 1754-1817).
8. Benjamin Farmer (1756-1826).

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Sources

1. *The North Carolina Booklet,* Vol. 16, p. 97.
2. Halifax County, Deed Book 5, p. 177.
3. *The Colonial Records of North Carolina* (Raleigh, N. C., 1886), Vol. IV, p. 644; G.O. 113, Council Journal, 1734-1743, p. 212.
4. Minutes of the Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, in the North Carolina Department of Archives.
5. North Carolina Land Grant Office, Patent Book 11, p. 174.
6. Halifax County, Deed Book 7, pp. 258 and 317.
7. Edgecombe County, Deed Book O, p. 217; the original deed has miraculously survived and is in the hands of the present writer.
8. Minutes of the Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, in the North Carolina Department of Archives.
9. Edgecombe County, Deed Book D, p. 195.
10. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 11, p. 389.
11. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 26, p. 107.
12. Halifax County, Deed Book 12, p. 152.

DICK PENDER OBITUARY

The Wilson Times, April 3, 1896

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Dick Pender.

Last week Dick Pender died in Wilson. He had long lived in this town. I have known more of him than any other Negro in this world. He was as genuine a Negro in the good sense of that word as I have perhaps ever known. He hated a mean Negro, or a lazy, proud, trifling one. He was fond of a dram, fond of good eating, fond of hard work, was no eye servant. He labored as well alone as he did if his employer was present. He was a noted ditcher and marl-digger. ... He laid up nothing for the future, had no anxiety for to-morrow. He loved people better than he thought himself to be. He had strong admiration for such as he considered worthy of honor.

He was about 60 years of age—a landmark of the age when Negroes were slaves—a landmark of that class set free that did not hate white people.

I feel sad over the death of poor Dick, so long our sexton, and so often in my employ, and hope the exchange puts him where the servant is free from his master, and where the weary are at rest.

P. D. GOLD.

MINUTES, JANUARY 31, 2006

WCGS held its first meeting of this year on January 31st at the Wilson County Library. The attendance and member participation was good, thus a good beginning for the new year.

President Sue Powell welcomed members and guests and expressed appreciation from her and Henry for honoring them at the November Annual Meeting reception. She thanked Carol Forbes for her leadership, time and talents during her past presidency. Member participation and contributions to *Trees of Wilson* were acknowledged and continue to be a much needed part of the years' activities.

The minutes were approved as written in Trees. Treasurer Henry Powell gave a condensed treasurer's report, which includes the pre-publications sales money from *Founding Families*. The publications fund contains enough money to publish the book. A detailed annual report was passed around for all to read.

There have been 150 membership renewals with 83 non-renewals. That continues to change as members gradually remember to send in dues for the coming year.

There are 370 completed pages for the *Founding Families* book. Initial entry has been done on all the households except for the largest surname, Barnes. More work is needed including a review of contributed material, a search for potential errors, a source check, and any necessary editorial changes, as well as the index.

It was suggested that new books be given to Sue and Henry to replace their much worn ones that have been used doing research for Founding Families

Greg Needham, our new WCPL director, is now very much a part of the daily library life. He is certainly willing to work with the society concerning the collections, and we were all encouraged to volunteer to work in the genealogy room.

A brief report was given on the World War II project which is chaired by Betty McCain for the Wilson County Historical Association. We were reminded that William S. Lamm will give our February program on the Lamm Confederate Memorial Service and that WCGS will mark its 15th anniversary during March.

There were a number of interesting articles passed around for members to read and enjoy. Members were again asked to share their findings. It was suggested that we might make a genealogical codicil to our wills to make sure that our valuable work is left to those who will cherish it and continue the work. We were encouraged to prepare our research in a form that can be made available and shared with others.

Ray King, our speaker for the evening, was introduced by Sue. He is from Johnston County and has taught U. S. and World History and has been doing genealogical research for the past 23 years. Ray says he spent a lot of time at Archives beginning at age 13. He is an entertaining, knowledgeable speaker. Listening to him makes one know that family searching does not have to be a dull and arduous process, though it takes diligence.

Ray stressed that we must establish a name, time, and place in our search. He talked about researching in burned counties and stressed that ownership of land is tied to everything. In searching land, we need to remember that county and township lines moved, folks did not. Also, he stated that recorded dates of records in the burned counties are not always accurate. Persons may have made a late registration or a re-registration after a loss of courthouse records.

We were given an outline while he spoke on topics including Colonial records, State records, collections, newspapers and miscellaneous records (NCSA).

Ray's time was all too short. His humor and his gift for speaking made for a most interesting presentation.

The meeting ended with a short visiting time prior to the library's closing hour.

Frances W. Roberson

WORLD WAR II MEMORY PROJECT

The Wilson County Historical Association is working to compile the memoirs of Wilson World War II veterans. The volunteers of the project, headed by Betty McCain, hope to prepare a book to place in the local libraries and with the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources.

Veterans are urged to contribute stories of their experiences.

At least two contributions have been made to Wilson County Public Library related to this project:

- WCGS vice president Phil Mooring has transcribed the letters written by his father Arthur Mooring, Jr., during his term of duty and compiled them into a book which he has donated to the library. See the entry below in New Books in the Local History Room.
- WCGS treasurer Henry Powell videotaped the program presented last spring by WCGS member Guy Cox about his World War II experiences. Guy's son Guy Cox, Jr., transferred the tape to a DVD and edited it with enhancements. A copy of the DVD has been donated to the library.

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The room is large, attractive, and well arranged. The collection of books and microfilm contained is very extensive, and computers are available to search the internet. The library maintains subscriptions to Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest which you can access there. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM

- *Abstracts of Haywood County, North Carolina Deeds, 1808-1838*, abstracted by Bill Eddleman
- *History of Surry County, North Carolina,* by J. G. Hollingsworth
- *Deeds of Gates County, North Carolina, 1776-1803, Volume I,* compiled by Mona Armstrong Taylor
- *Duplin County, North Carolina, Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, Volume I, 1784-1787, Volume II, 1788-1791, Volume III, 1792-1795*, compiled by Leora McEachern
- *Orange County, North Carolina, Abstracts of the Minutes of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of September 1751-August 1766*, compiled by Ruth Herndon Shields
- *Love to All: The World War II Letters of Arthur Mooring, Jr.*, compiled by Phillip Arthur Mooring

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Books

___ They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States	$15.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860.	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870.	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900.	$40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III	$30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV	$30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage	$20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) (tax included) **NEW**	$35 .00

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3	$5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4	$5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872	$5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882	$5.00
___ Wilson County Waterways	$5.00

Miscellaneous

___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation	$5.00 shipping included
___ Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper)	$5.00 shipping included
___ 2002 WCGS Calendar (Rock Ridge area)	$5.00
___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township)	$5.00
___ 2004 WCGS Calendar (Stantonsburg)	$5.00
___ 2005 WCGS Calendar (Elm City)	$5.00

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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

March 2006 **Volume 15 Number 3**

President's Message

Spring is here, and the earth has begun its annual renewal. I look forward to and enjoy spring more than either of the other seasons. As the weather warms and the blossoms appear, it seems that I have more energy and a renewed zeal to get things done.

If the same is true for you, I would like to give you a challenge and a not so subtle nudge. In the words of the old song, "Prepare yourself, It's later than you think."

I would like to challenge you to prepare your family history research in a form that can be shared with others, if only with your family. Even better, contribute copies to the libraries in the areas where you live and/or in the areas where your ancestors lived.

If you have a photograph collection, organize and identify each of the photographs in context with your family tree. If you have the capability to digitize the photos, do that also and place them within your family history data. However, do not let your digitized copy be the only copy. Just as 8-track audio tapes and floppy disks are now obsolete, CD's and DVD's that we are using today will one day become obsolete.

One last prong to this challenge is to be sure that your research survives after your death. We all have heard, too late, of a researcher's work being trashed by family members who had no interest in family history. **Your work has value!** You have spent many hours and, in one way or another, many dollars to compile your family history. While you still can, make known what you want done with your records in your will or tell trusted close relatives.

Sue Powell

MARCH 28TH MEETING

7:00 PM, Wilson County Public Library Assembly Room.
15th Anniversary Open House

WCGS had its organizational meeting at WCPL on February 26, 1991, with eighteen people present. In the intervening years, we have grown and endeavored to further our purpose to promote the collection and permanent preservation of materials of genealogical and historical value on Wilson County families and to serve as a medium of exchange of genealogical information.

The first issue of *Trees of Wilson* was published in January 1992 with four pages and gradually grew to its present size. We have published the 1860 and 1870 Wilson County census records, four volumes of cemetery records, a handbook to help to locate cemeteries in the series, a reprint of Wilson County's Architectural Heritage, Hugh Johnston's compilation of some persons who moved away from North Carolina, an index of Wilson County Estates Records, and a series of maps.

Join us on March 28 as we celebrate our first fifteen years. We will have exhibits of our publications and of different persons' research efforts. There will be books, family charts, photographs, and other memorabilia to view. Bring yours to share. A prize will be given for the best display. We will also have refreshments made from colonial recipes.

Invite your friends who might like to start researching. There will be handouts that will help them begin.

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Greenville, N. C.
March 17th 1885

Dear Miss Ora,

I received your very dear letter two weeks ago and assure you I was glad indeed to hear from a dear but absent friend.

I am having a nice time now; wish you were here to help me eat snow. Ma and Pa have been to Whitakers at last. They say they had a very nice time. Mittie did not go to school. She came home with them and I was not sorry, I tell you. Miss Ora, I wish you were here to go to Gum Swamp next Sunday. Wouldn't we have a jolly time?

You asked me who was going to see Miss Fannie. I don't know, but I think Mr. Ben. Shelton. Don't you think so, too? You want to wait on Mr. Riddick and myself. You can certainly do so when ever that happens, but I am sure that will never. Miss Bettie and Miss Fannie spent the day with me last Sunday. Miss Bettie and the children were not so well. I want you to hurry up and surprise us all. I am sure it would be quite a pleasant one. Miss Ora, don't get married while you are up there and not let me know it. I would like so much to be present.

Rina[?] Patrick surprised her parents not long ago. She ran away with Eugene Cox and married him. Her mother and father won't even speak to them. Isn't it bad? Miss Ora, I reckon you will be surprised when I tell you Howell Hearne is in Jail. Don't you think he ought to have been there long ago? I have nothing to say that would interest you. I made me a dead fall today and killed four birds. Please write soon to your true and loving friend. Good-bye with a smile.

Mamie Tyson

There is one sweet wish I'll breathe for thee,
In friendship and love 'tis given,
On earth a happy destiny,
And then a home in Heaven.

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

This chronicle is published by the Wilson County Genealogical Society, organized February 26, 1991. Address: P.O. Box 802, Wilson, NC 27894-0802. Telephone 252-243-1660. Internet address:

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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Family Connections—*Wilson Daily Times*

The Owens Family and Other Local Welsh Families—February 21, 2006

Saint David is the patron saint of Wales. He lived in the 5th century and established a monastery in the west of Wales. Together with other Celtic clerics, he introduced Christianity to Wales. He was made a saint in the 11th century, and a cathedral was built on the site of his monastery

The tiny cathedral still stands at that site. While Wales, as part of Great Britain, has not been a Catholic country since Henry VIII abolished that church in the mid 1500s, it is still a deeply religious country. Henry VIII's Church of England was never popular, and many Welsh belong to nonconformist churches, defined in Wales as Baptist, Methodist, and other protestant faiths.

Regardless of one's religion, Saint David's Day is a national holiday in Wales. The official day is March 1, but it is usually celebrated on the nearest weekend in countries with some Welsh connections. These writers are members of the Welsh Society of the Carolinas and will meet on February 26 for a Saint David's Day dinner in Raleigh. Compared to the lively Irish and raucous Scots, the Welsh are a quiet lot. Family and personal connections mean everything to these people, and celebrations are usually fairly sedate.

Welsh ancestors make up a far greater part of the American population than most people realize. Henry VIII, who was Welsh himself, made great changes in Welsh laws that were for the long term benefit of the population. He imposed the rule of primogeniture, which means that a man must leave all his property to his eldest son, thus ensuring there would be adequate land to support following generations. Prior to this rule, land was portioned out to all descendents, and no one had enough land to support a family. The effect, for us, was to drive the younger generations out of Wales, usually into England and often then to America. We don't recognize these families as Welsh because they didn't leave from there.

Many Welsh surnames derive from a father's name. John had sons who took Johns as their surname, which in time changed to Jones. David's sons were named Davids which became Davis. In Irish and Scottish, "son of" was denoted by Mac but in Welsh was denoted by mab or map which was usually abbreviated in various ways. The son of Howell (map Howell) became Powell. Eyenam had sons who became Bynum, and so on. Many other names developed straight from Welsh words, Vaughan from the word for small; Wynn (long or tall), Lloyd and Floyd (brown), Rice and Reese (Rhys), Sears (Sawyer). There are a good handful of surnames which appear frequently all over Wales: Evans (from the Celtic word for John), Thomas, Williams, James, Morgan, Jenkins, Daniels, Lewis, and Griffin (Griffith).

One of our larger local families is Owens, which is purely Welsh in origin. The word means "well born." It was only a personal name until the 1500s. The name was originally Owain, Owin, Owens and lastly, Owen. It has always been popular as the forename of princes and leaders, notably Owain Gwynedd (1100-1170) and Owain Glyndwr (1354-1416). The first record of the use of Owen as a surname was of Roland Owen, Sheriff of Montgomeryshire, Wales in the 1500s.

Early Welsh immigrants to America include Thomas Owens, in 1622, who settled on the James River. In 1650, William Owen worked for his passage to Virginia as a lad. In 1658, Bartholomew Owen was listed in court records of Surry County, Virginia. In 1700, three brothers, John, Thomas, and William settled in Henrico County, Virginia.

(Continued on page 34)

JOSEPH WATSON FAMILY BIBLE

Transcribed and contributed by William P. Carrell II

The following is a complete transcription of the family records contained in the Joseph Watson Family Bible, which dates from the late 1800s and was owned by Fannie Griggs of Wilson, North Carolina, until her death last year. This Bible's family record originates with Joseph Watson (1827-1863) and his wife Martha Kirby (1832-1883). Their records, save for Martha's death, as well as that of their children are all in the same handwriting. Given the date of this Bible, the records of these two generations were clearly copied from an older source–possibly another Bible. The remaining records appear to be in one or two different handwritings.

Given the context of the records below, the transcriber found it unusual that Joseph Watson's death was not recorded. Research revealed that Joseph joined Company A of the 55th North Carolina Infantry, CSA on 28 April 1862, and fought in the War Between the States. He was wounded on the first day of the Battle of Gettysburg, on 1 July 1863, and was taken as a prisoner of war to the Union camp at Ft. Delaware, Delaware, where he died of "smallpox" on 3 November 1863.[1]

Joseph & Martha Watson's T-shaped one story house still stands on Route 301, near that road's intersection with Goldsboro Street opposite to the house, in Wilson, North Carolina. The house is now used by Joyner's Monument business.

*** *** ***

MARRIAGES

Joseph Watson and Martha Kirby were joined together in the Holy Bonds of wedlock September 4th AD. 1849

Kinchen Watson and Mary Ann Farmer were joined together in the Holy Bonds of wedlock November 14th A.D. 1872

S. J. Watson and Fannie Rice were joined together in the Holy Bonds of wedlock December 21st 1887

Jessie William Thomas and Minnie Lee Watson were joined together in the Holy Bonds of wedlock April 30, 1913

John Embry Griggs and Pattie Watson were married Nov. 12, 1919

Lynwood Hugh Flowers and Mary Belle Watson were married Oct. 11, 1922

Horace Stephen Watson and Helen Jean Wylie were married Dec. 26, 1925

BIRTHS

Joseph Watson was born December 13th, A.D. 1827

Martha Watson wife of the above was born August 25th, A.D. 1832

Kinchen Watson[2] son of the above was born August 29th AD. 1850

Elizabeth Watson daughter of the above was born October 26th A.D. 1851

Griffin Watson[3] son of the above was born February 11th AD. 1854

Gideon Watson son of the above was born October 17th A.D. 1855

Spicie Watson daughter of the above was born September 21st A.D. 1857

Frances Ann Arkansas Watson daughter of the above was born March 25th AD. 1859

James Ruffin Watson[4] son of the above was born November 9th A.D. 1860

Stephen J. Watson[5] son of the above was born March 11th AD. 1862

Pattie J. Watson was born January 29th 1889

Minnie Lee Watson was born August 10th 1892

Mary Belle Watson was born December 7th 1894

Horace Stephen Watson was born Aug. 9th 1898.

Susan Frances Watson was born March 30th 1901

DEATHS

Elizabeth Watson daughter of Joseph Watson and his wife Martha departed this life December 12th A.D. 1862

Martha Watson departed this life March 18th A.D. 1883

Griffin Watson departed this life April 26th March 3, 1883

Spicey Watson Barnes departed this life March 3, 1921

Gideon Watson departed this life September 23, 1885

Stephen J. Watson, husband of Fannie Rice Watson, died Aug. 31, 1926

Pattie Rice Watson Griggs, daughter of Stephen J. & Fannie R. Watson died Oct. 7, 1926

Fannie Rice Watson, wife of Stephen J. Watson, died December 15, 1944

Endnotes:

1. See *North Carolina Troops 1861-1865.* Vol. XIII, page 443.

2. Kinchen's gravestone, which is in Wilson, North Carolina's Maplewood Cemetery, indicates that his middle initial was "H" and that he died on 10 October 1929. Two wives are buried with him: Susan F. Rice (1857-1898), who was the sister of Stephen J. Watson's wife Fannie, and Alice Mosley (1863-1940).

3. The transcriber is his descendant. Griffin married Margarett Smith on 12 January 1882 (see marriage bond) and left only one child, who was born after her father's premature death, Mattie A. Watson (1883-1907). Mattie married on 1 October 1899 to her half-cousin John Richard Eagles (1869-1930) of Wilson County, North Carolina. Their son, and transcriber's grandfather, Horace Watson Eagles (1903-1992), was Griffin's namesake. Given the Watson propensity to use middle names as their primary name, it appears that Griffin's first name, which was not recorded in the Bible record, was Horace. This conclusion is supported by the presence of the name Horace in the family, as shown in the Bible record herein.

4. According to Fannie Griggs, he was known as "Ruffin."

5. Fannie Griggs was his granddaughter and indicated that he always went by "J." This initial, she explained, did not stand for any name. He and his wife are buried in Wilson, North Carolina's Maplewood Cemetery.

[Editor's note: Records of those still living have been omitted from this publication of the Bible transcription.

In 1860, Joseph Watson, age 32, farmer; and his wife Martha, age 28, lived in Wilson District. Living with them were Kinchen, age 9; Elizabeth, age 8; Griffen, age 7; Gideon, age 5; Spicy, age 3; and Frances A., age 1. Joseph L. Watson had a spirits, turpentine, and rosen business in Black Creek District.]

THEOPHILUS HILL, MERCHANT
Hugh Buckner Johnston

Theophilus Hill (born 1741 in Bertie County-died December 20, 1790) was a son of Abraham and Judith (Hinton) Hill of Chowan County and became perhaps the first merchant resident in the Stantonsburg area of the present Wilson County, North Carolina. On April 17, 1760, his father bequeathed to him the Pugh purchase of 200 acres in Chowan County, the land at the point, half the piney woods tract, a fourth of the spoon molds, slaves Dempsey, Peter, and Charles, feather bed and its furniture, silver cup, two silver spoons, large iron pot, 25 pounds of the best pewter, small iron pot, and a gray mare to be enjoyed after his mother's death.[1]

By December 18, 1761, he described himself as a Planter of Edgecombe County and paid £82 each to Mary Welch and to John Drew for their respective halves of 300 acres north of Contentnea Creek that had been patented by William Barnes on October 27, 1752; witnessed by Isaac Hill, Thomas House, and William House.[2] By 1763 he was living on the south side of Contentnea Creek in what was then Dobbs County, probably on the 139 acres that he sold to his nephew when he moved to New Bern in 1768. On February 26, 1782, Isaac Hill, Jr., of Wake County sold to James Stanton of Edgecombe County for £50 in specie money the aforesaid tract adjacent to the Robert Simms "Pattent" line in Wayne County (formed from part of Dobbs County in 1779) that he had purchased from his uncle Theophilus Hill.[3]

One of the first things that our young merchant did after establishing himself on Contentnea Creek was to begin courting Theresa Thomas (1744-ca. 1825), the young daughter of the Reverend John Thomas, Sr., Esquire, and wife Christenater Roberts who lived southeast of the confluence of Tosneot Swamp and White Oak Swamp and less than three miles west of the present Saratoga. They were married on September 3, 1762, probably at the Tosneot Baptist Church located on the plantation of her brother, the Reverend Jonathan Thomas. John Thomas bequeathed to his daughter "Treasy" Hill a nominal £5 in Edgecombe County on April 21, 1788.[4]

On November 5, 1763, Theophilus Hill of Dobbs (now Wayne) County sold to Elisha Hunter of Chowan County 640 acres on Bear Swamp, a former purchase by his late father Abraham Hill of the latter county.[5] On November 7, 1763, he sold 150 acres on Cypress Swamp from his father's estate.[6] On November 8, 1763, he sold Samuel Hicks his inherited "Punch Bowl" tract of 200 acres in Chowan County.[7] Since he never bought any property in Craven County during his brief residence in New Bern, his next planting venture appears to have been in old Edgefield County, South Carolina.

Theophilus Hill had been reared under the influence of the mercantile business that his father had operated in addition to his extensive planting interests. His patrimony was invested largely in the purchase of land on Contentnea Creek and the development of Hill and Company for the shipping of merchantable commodities up and down to New Bern which was at that time an important inland port. One lawsuit involving the Company was tried in the Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in July of 1764, while Hill had succeeded Joseph Simms as Road Overseer in the S. E. corner of said County by order of the Court of April 24, 1764, and had himself been succeeded by Samuel Moore on October 8, 1765.[8]

On November 22, 1768, Theophilus and Tresea Hill of Craven County sold to Samuel Granberry of Northampton County for £170 in Proclamation Money the Barnes patent of 300 acres adjoining William Moore on the north side of Contentnea Creek; witnessed by John Thomas, Sr., William Daniell, and Gabriel Parker.[9] It is not known how long they remained in New Bern, but about 1770 they appear to have established a plantation in the Edgefield District of backcountry South Carolina, presumably on the South Fork of the Edisto River in the present Saluda County, about 40 miles north of Augusta and 45 miles west of Columbia. They were members of the Red Banks Baptist Church of which her brother the Reverend John Thomas, Jr., was the first pastor.

Leaving their capable eldest son Lodowick on the Edgefield County plantation, the Hills moved at a later date to Diego Flats in the vicinity of St. Augustine, Florida, where the census of December of 1786 described them as aged respectively forty-three and forty-two years.[10] It has been stated that the reason for Theophilus Hill's going to East Florida was that he had "Cruelly murdered" Joseph Whitney on July 21, 1785, in Camden County, South Carolina, according to the County Court held on September 22, 1785.

Family tradition indicates that, in connection with his shipping business, Theophilus Hill established a large plantation near San Domingo on the Island of Haiti, but a few months before his death at the age of forty-nine, he lost all in the course of the bloody insurrection of late 1790 and early 1791. He actually died on December 20, 1790, and was buried the next day on his plantation near San Diego Plains about twenty miles north of St. Augustine, after having received the final sacraments of the Catholic Church.

On December 11, 1790, Theresa, "Daughter of Juan and Christina Thomas, and wife of Theophile Hill of the Lutheran religion," had been baptized by priest Thomas Hassett into the Catholic Church of St. Augustine,[11] and her four younger daughters had been baptized in the Catholic Church on July 8, 1787, and married into local Spanish families. On January 3, 1792, Don Manuel Marchal applied for permission to contract marriage with Dona Teresa Thomas Hill, widow.[12] The marriage actually took place on February 4, 1792. He was a native of the parish of San Pedro, Valletta, Malta, a son of Pedro Marchal and wife Brigida Falson. When she visited her grandchildren in South Carolina some years before her death, according to the late Tabor Lyon Hill, they were convinced that "Her conduct and conversation were evidences of high birth and of rearing in an environment of culture and wealth." She may have been living then at St. Mary's, Georgia.

Since twin John (or Johannes or Juan) Hill, born in Florida on June 6, 1787, appears to have died young, Lodowick Hill (born in 1763 in what is now Wilson County, North Carolina, and died testate on July 22, 1822, in Edgefield County,

(Continued on page 29)

(Theophilus Hill, Continued from page 28)
South Carolina) was the only child to transmit the family name. In 1785 he married Susannah "Susan" Grigsby, daughter of planter Enoch Grigsby and wife Mary Butler. In May of 1781 Lodowick had enlisted for ten months as a private in Captain Isaac Ross's Troup, Colonel Charles Middleton's Second Regiment of South Carolina State Dragoons, and he appears to have held the rank of Sergeant from April 1, 1782, until October 1, 1784.[13]

One of the older daughters of Theophilus and Theresa Hill married a Dewitt, and five others [marriages] are of record:

(1) Sarah (Maria del Carmen when baptized as a Catholic on June 18, 1787) Hill was born in South Carolina in 1770 and married at St. Augustine on December 28, 1787, Don Francisco Xavier Sanchez;
(2) Christina Hill was born in South Carolina in 1775 and was married on September 15, 1794, at St. Augustine, to Don Jose Sanchez de Ortegosa;
(3) Maria Antonia Hill was born in South Carolina in 1779, and was married on February 4, 1799, at St. Augustine, to Bernardino Sanchez de Ortegosa;
(4) Elizabeth "Isabel" Hill was born in South Carolina in 1781 and was married on February 7, 1797, at St. Augustine, to Joseph Burnell, son of John Burnell and wife Isabel Raven of Lynn, Norfolkshire, England; and
(5) Anna Maria Hill was born at St. Augustine on June 6. 1787, a twin, and died there on June 23, 1849. She married 1st on August 12, 1805, Samuel Williams of St. Augustine, and 2nd General Jose Mariano Hernandez on February 25, 1814.

Endnotes:

1. *North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. II,* p. 472; Lodowick Johnson Hill, *The Hills of Wilkes County, Georgia, and Allied Families* (Danielsville, Georgia, 1972), pp. 13, 14, and 163.
2. Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Deed Book 1, pp. 41 and 43; Deed Book 00, pp. 10 and 37; Patent Book 11, p. 138.
3. Wayne County, Deed Book 1, p. 68.
4. Edgecombe County, Will Book C, p. 80.
5. Chowan County, Deed Book M 1, p. 73.
6. Deed Book M 1, p. 86.
7. Deed Book M 1, p. 130.
8. The North Carolina Department of Archives, C.R.037.301.4, Edgecombe County Court Minutes, 1764-1772, pp. 2 and 39.
9. Edgecombe County, Deed Book D, pp. 84 and 474; Deed Book 2, p. 101.
10. The St. Augustine Historical Society Library, *The St. Augustine Census of 1786,* p. 11.
11. St. Augustine Cathedral Records, Canova Transcripts, p. 94, p. 7, etc.
12. Matrimonial Papers, Box 3, No. 65.
13. Alexander S. Salley, *Stub Entries to Indents for Revolutionary Claims, Book L-W* (Columbia, South Carolina, 1910), pp. 180 and 181. See also *The Hills of Wilkes County,* etc., p. 164.

[Editor's note: Other handwritten notes by Mr. Johnston on Theresa Thomas indicate that Theophilus and Theresa Hill had two other daughters about whom he had no information, and another son Thomas who was born on June 6, 1787, and presumably died young.]

JEREMIAH BATTS CEMETERY

Contributed by Ben F. Williams

I re-visited the J Batts cemetery on last Thursday to correct the first attempts. Attached is a more accurate account.
Located on Orchard Road (SR 1410) n of East Langley .4 mile
In field 900' south west of old house, very heavy undergrowth, trees, etc
Recorded by Ben F Williams, Dec 1, 2005
3 stones found:

J Batts
Born Jun 16, 1813
Died Oct 21, 1886
A Tender Father and Faithful Friend

Harriet L
Wife of J Batts
Born Nov 16, 1816
Died Jan 25, 1886
Blessed are the dead Which die in the Lord

Maggie Ella Batts
Born Oct 28, 1892
Died Sept 1, 1898
Budded on earth To Bloom in Heaven

Information to accompany Jeremiah Batts Cemetery

In 1831, 10th of January, Bailey Batts purchased 253 acres of land in Edgecombe County from the heir of Benjamin Gray, Phebe Gray, on both sides of the Williamson Branch adjoining Jonathan Bailey, formerly James Luper and James Whitehead for the sum of 200 dollars. (Edge DB 20, p 104)

On August 4, 1836, Bailey Batts sold to his son Jeremiah Batts the same tract of land. (Edge DB 21, p 448).

According to Hugh Johnston, Jeremiah Batts married Harriett Louisa Joyner on February 14, 1839, in Edgecombe County. Harriett was the daughter of Wrighton William Joyner and wife Tabitha Horn of Nash County.

Jeremiah purchased additional pieces of land adjacent to the main farm and other farms in Garner Township. Apparently, he built the home place, which still stands (barely), and desired to be buried nearby. In later years he transferred land to each of his children. After changing hands a few times, the remaining 515 acres was divided and sold. Purchasing the home place tract was William Whitehead Johnson and wife, Minnie Etta Williams Johnson. Their youngest son, W. W. Johnson, Jr. still resides near the original house.

The third marker in the cemetery is reported to be of the fifth child of John Robert Batts (and wife Mary Etta), a son of Jeremiah and Harriett.

Apparently, the Batts Cemetery has not been previously included in the Wilson County cemetery listings. For more complete family information see Hugh Johnston, *The Batts Family*, working papers by WCGS.

THOMAS CROWDER DAVIS

Edited by F. D. Swindell

***Wilson Daily Times*, April 12, 1913**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

[Editor's note: From time to time in the course of his business, J. Robert Boykin acquires copies of old newspapers and sends to your editors articles of interest to family historians. He has most recently given us five articles from a series edited by F. D. Swindell entitled "Who's Who in Wilson" with the subtitles "Some facts serious and frivolous about the life, character and disposition of Wilsonians" and "That we may become better acquainted with one another." These five personalities are Elias G. Barnes, George W. Connor, Thomas Crowder Davis, Robert Bruce Evans, and James Henry Marshburn. We will include each of these essays in future issues of *Trees of Wilson* in the order in which they were originally published.]

Wearing a dark suit of clerical cut, stooping slightly toward the right as he walks, but leaning only lightly upon the cane he carries, Thomas Crowder Davis, octogenarian and Wilson's oldest citizen covers as much territory between seven in the morning and the corresponding hour in the evening as any younger in town—unless he be a mail carrier.

Born in 1830, while yet Napoleon wandered among the rocks at St. Helena and The United States of America was not yet half a century old, Thomas Crowder Davis is as active and as hearty today as his youngest grandson. The 83 winters that have passed him by have whitened but not thinned his hair; have robbed his grayish blue eyes of their one time clearness of vision but left their sparkle and intellectual expression. Two strokes of paralysis have slightly affected his articulation but left his strong and vigorous brain untouched.

Ancestry.

Shortly after the Revolution, James Davis, grandfather of Thomas Crowder, moved from Virginia to Philadelphia. This was at the time that one Benjamin Franklin, statesman, electrician and publisher, was setting a deal of type and putting new wrinkles in the publishing business in the city of Brotherly Love. James Davis, a man of parts and ability, proceeded to cultivate the friendship and learn the art of Poor Richard. Having mastered the mysteries of pica and nonpareil he glanced over the virgin country with an eye to establishing a business for himself. Franklin, one of whose long suits was judgment, suggested North Carolina. Davis embraced the suggestion and selected New Bern as the likeliest spot between the Blue Ridge and the Atlantic Ocean. His was the first printing establishment in North Carolina. His work was so satisfactory that it was not long before he was appointed official Colonial Printer.

Politics, arms and agriculture were the three most honorable and lucrative fields in those days, and printing being more directly in line with politics than with either of the other two, James Davis waxed diligent in rounding up the votes of his county. He tried the sheriff's job for a while, went to the legislature and finally became a member of the Governor's Council.

Grandpa Mershon, father of Elizabeth Mershon, who became the mother of Thomas Crowder Davis, also had something coming to him in the line of distinction. To begin with, he was a Huguenot, the simon pure article, born in France and all that. These Huguenots, you will recall, although fond of France in a way, found it both advisable and desirable to emigrate somewhere "along or about" the last of the 17th or the first of the 18th century. This particular Huguenot landed on American soil in 1708. He was accompanied by some 500 other ladies and gentlemen of similar nationality and persuasion who formed a very respectable and high class colony in Virginia. Dr. Mershon was physician to this colony. After his death, his wife with her daughter Elizabeth came to New Bern and there the son of James Davis, the printer and politician, himself named James, met and wooed and won Elizabeth, the daughter of the Huguenot physician, and to them was born a son, Thomas Crowder Davis—which brings us up to date.

Greenville.

About the time that Thomas Crowder was beginning to loose interest in the entertaining and diverting stunt of riding to Banbury Cross on his mother's knee, which, to be exact, was when that young person had attained the age of seven years, Mr. and Mrs. Davis and all the little Davis' turned their back upon the ancient town on the Neuse and the Trent and pitched their tent at Greenville. Here Thomas C., James W., Joseph B., Emily and Jane played the merry games of childhood and found life pleasant.

During his 18 years of Greenville life Thomas Crowder missed few tricks. He mastered the Blue Back Speller and other essentials of learning under Professor Dimrock, who in addition to being the uncle of Charlie O'Hagan—that is from the time that Charlie came along, which we feel sure was sometime subsequent to the time we are speaking of—was the editor of the Old North State, a paper of wide reputation in those good old days.

Wilson.

Now Thomas Crowder Davis would probably have remained in Greenville had not father James had occasion to pass through Wilson. This was in 1853 when Wilson was, more or less, of the back woods type. The old gentleman readily saw the promise of better things for this section of the country, so when he returned to Pitt, he ordered a stock of merchandise sent here and packed Tom and James off to handle the yard stick and the scales. They opened shop in a building on the corner of Nash and Tarboro streets, where Blavelt now sells eyeglasses and picture post cards.

Thomas Crowder inherited certain characteristics from his paternal grandfather. Among these a strong leaning towards politics. This explains partly why it was that when Wilson county was formed in 1855 Thomas C. was elected clerk of the Superior court.

Some of you—a few, a very few, of course, will remember that along in these days our court procedure was modeled more after the English system than it is now. For one thing

(Continued on Page 31)

(Thomas Crowder Davis, continued from page 30)
there was the Quarter Sessions. This was somewhat superior in dignity to the Superior court, so it happened that when Thomas Crowder saw the opportunity of swapping his job for that of clerk of the Quarter Sessions he lost no time in doing so. This accomplished he settled down contentedly for 12 long years. It was during these 12 years that the boys of the gray and the boys of the blue exchanged sanguinary compliments all along the line from Bethel to Appomattox. Thomas Crowder had martial blood in his veins and yearned for a musket and a place on the firing line, but fate decreed otherwise. The governor of the state issued a proclamation requesting and ordering all court officials to resist the call to arms and remain on the job, pointing out to them the superior necessity of their doing so. Thomas Crowder, loyally, but reluctantly obeyed his governor and during those memorable four years of internecine strife he faithfully and diligently wielded the goose quill and protected the civil rights of his fellow citizens.

Marriage.

There have been beautiful girls in North Carolina ever since that long ago day, when Miss Virginia Dare attained the distinction of being the first white child born in America. There have been, we say, and there will be until the final taps is sounded, but of all these, past, present or future, Mr. Thomas Crowder Davis insists that Virginia Stith, of Sampson county, was the most beautiful. Fully persuaded of this the said Thomas on May the 22nd, 1857 slipped the wedding ring upon the fair hand of the blushing, happy Virginia and called her—but that is none of our business.

After the war and after Mr. Davis had no further clerkships to aspire to, he having served as clerk of the inferior and Superior court and Quarter Sessions, he reentered his old love the mercantile business, and at this and as teller for the Branch Banking company he spent many years.

Thomas Crowder Davis is truly a product of the old south, the grand old southern gentleman, cultured, chivalrous and unostentatiously aristocratic. He was born in two faiths. One being the Episcopal church and the other the Democratic party.

As an Episcopalean.

Mr. Davis is widely known over the state. In 1860, although he was at that time the only communicant in the township, he set about and organized our present Episcopal church. Elected Senior Warden he has retained that honorable position ever since. He had always a leaning toward High Church doctrine and High Church service and it is currently said that there is no danger of the candles over the alter ever becoming short or dim while he is able to get about.

As a Democrat.

Mr. Davis is the oldest living voter in the county, although he must share honors with Dr. Tom Person. Of the hundred odd voters living in Wilson township in 1853 these two survive. Mr. Davis has never wavered from the Democratic faith. He voted for Buchannan and for Wilson and all the Democratic nominees between these two and he hopes to vote for Wilson again in 1916.

As our Mr. Davis approaches the sunset and evening star he cannot but be glad to know that his life has been honorable and clean, unselfish and noble. That his record of nearly a century is without spot or blemish; that his family has prospered and grown in numbers about him; that although the friends of his own generation have nearly every one passed over the Great Divide those of us of the new have learned to admire, respect and love him.

In conclusion we wish him health and happiness and prosperity for many years to come.

VIRGINIA STITH DAVIS OBITUARY

***The Wilson Times*, July 21, 1899**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

DIED.

Last Tuesday night about 11 o'clock at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Edwin Barnes, Mrs. Virginia Stith Davis, wife of Mr. T. C. Davis, died after a two week's illness.

Mrs. Davis was a daughter of Dr. Buckner Stith and was born in 1834. In 1857 she married Mr. T. C. Davis of this city, who survives her. Four children were the result of this union. Mrs. Thomas Battle, deceased, of Rocky Mount, Mrs. Edwin Barnes of this city, and Messrs. T. A. and F. S. Davis, both prominent business men of Wilson.

Her death was caused by inflamatary rheumatism and was a great shock to her many friends. The funeral services were conducted last Wednesday afternoon at 6 o'clock by her pastor, Rev. Thomas Bell, at the Episcopal church, of which she was a most consistent member, and for which she was a tireless worker.

The remains were interred in Maplewood cemetery, the following gentlemen acting as pall-bearers:—Hon. F. A. Woodard, Judge H. G. Connor, Col. J. B. Stickney, I. M. Leath, T. J. Hadley and Capt. Samuel Hodges.

Mrs. Davis was a most estimable woman and beloved by all who knew her.

The following deserved tribute, to the memory of Mrs. Davis, was clipped from yesterday's Raleigh Post:

A wave of sorrow swept over our community this morning when the news passed from lip to lip that Mrs. T. C. Davis had passed from time to eternity. All hearts are grieved, for she was loved and admired by all, and she held in highest degree all of the virtues of that superior excellence which crowns a grandly developed Christian character. Her influence over the young was as refreshing as morning dew to budding flowers, for her words and her ministry were always pure and bright and full of sweetest cheer. ... She was a devoted member of the Episcopal church, and was one of its brightest lights and purest ornaments. Her light was not hid under a bushel, but was kept burning on the hilltops of brilliant example, and flashed forth with that radiant richness and glowing lustre that make Christianity so glorious, so beautiful, so conquering and so heavenly. Yes, her ministry was a blessing, her life a precious benediction.

S. A. TAYLOR v. A. J. EATMAN et. als.
Supreme Court Case #14,347
Wilson County
Contributed by Grace W. Turner

In the Supreme Court,
October Term, 1884

SIDNEY ANN TAYLOR and ARKANSAS TAYLOR
vs.
HARRIET TAYLOR and ALSEY J. EATMAN.

CASE AGREED.

This is an action brought by the plaintiffs originally against Harriet Taylor, and afterwards Alsey J. Eatman was made party defendant. The parties submit the questions arising from the pleadings upon the following case agreed;

1. For a long time previous to the 5th day of March, 1873, Hayman Eatman was seized in fee of a tract of land in Wilson County, containing four hundred and fifty acres, more or less.
2. That on the said 5th March, 1873, the said Hayman Eatman, for the consideration set out in the deed, executed to his wife, Chasey Eatman, without words of inheritance, a deed conveying to her 156 acres of said land, embracing nearly all of the arable lands with the buildings, a copy of said deed herewith filed marked "A," as part of this case.
3. The said Chasey Eatman, on 26th April, 1883, [1873] made a will devising said 156 acres to the said Hayman Eatman for life, and then to the plaintiffs, copy of which is herewith filed as part of this case, marked "B."
4. The said Chasey Eatman died in August, 1883 [1873]; and the said Hayman Eatman died June 19th, 1883.
5. That at the time of the execution of the said deed by Hayman Eatman to said Chasey Eatman, he had no children by the said Chasey, but had nine children by a former marriage.
6. At Spring term, 1867, of the Superior Court of Wilson county, a judgment was rendered in favor of Geo. C. Short against the said Hayman Eatman for the sum of seventy-five dollars, with interest from 1st September, 1857, and for costs, $10.75, which was duly docketed in said county on the __ day of ___, 18__, which said judgment was taken up by the defendant, Alsey J. Eatman, on the 22d Jany, 1879.
7. At the time of the execution of said deed by Hayman Eatman to Chasey Eatman, there was a mortgage on the said tract of 450 acres, executed by said Hayman Eatman to secure the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, which the said A. J. Eatman took up.
8. On the 30th January, 1875, the said Hayman Eatman executed a mortgage on the said 450 acres to Rountree, Baker & Co., to secure the payment of $266.62, with interest from said date at 8 percent. On the 26th February, 1875, the said Hayman Eatman executed a mortgage to Branch & Co., on the said 450 acres of land to secure a note of $266.62, payable to Rountree, Baker & Co., by them transferred to Branch & Co., being the same debt above set forth, and to secure the further sum of $48.90 due to said Branch & Co., and the sum of $50 due to R. G. Barhan, the last two sums carrying interest from said 26th February, 1875, at 8 per cent., which said mortgages were taken up by the said Alsey J. Eatman.
9. That on the 20th day of November, 1875, the said Hayman Eatman executed to the defendant, Alsey J. Eatman, a mortgage on the said 450 acres of land to secure the sum of nine hundred dollars, with interest, which constituted all of his indebtedness to A. J. Eatman from said date at 8 per cent.
10. On the 28th March, 1879, the said Hayman Eatman conveyed to the defendant, Alsey J. Eatman, in fee simple, the whole of said tract of 450 acres for the consideration of one thousand dollars, being a release of his equity of redemption in said land. That at the time of the execution of the mortgage and the deed of 28th March, 1879, the 300 acres reserved by Hayman Eatman, was worth [more] than his then indebtedness.
11. That at the time of the aforesaid deed by Hayman Eatman to Chacy Eatman his wife, the balance of said tract of land not conveyed to said Chasey, was worth more than his then indebtedness.
12. That said Hayman Eatman owned no other property than the 450 acres aforesaid, except some personal estate of small value.

If the court shall be of opinion upon the foregoing facts that the plaintiffs are entitled to recover the said land, to-wit: the 156 acres conveyed as aforesaid to Chasey Eatman, judgment shall be rendered for the possession thereof in favor of the plaintiff and for costs against the defendant. If the court shall be of opinion in favor of the defendant, judgment shall be rendered accordingly and for costs.

CONNOR & WOODARD, Plaintiff.
W. T. DORTCH & G. W. BLOUNT, Defendant.

This indenture, made this the twenty-fifth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three, by and between Hayman Eatman, of the State of North Carolina and county of Wilson, of the first part, and Chacey Eatman, his wife, of the State and county aforesaid, of the second part, witnesseth: That I, the said Hayman Eatman, of the first part, do for the love and affection and aforethught of her better sustainance to live comfortably and to be cared for in

(Continued on page 33)

(Taylor vs. Eatman, Continued from page 32)
her affictions, and the further sum of one hundred dollars in advance or to me in hand paid, go give, grant, bargain, sell, set over and deliver unto the said Chacey Eatman one certain tract or parcel of land, being in the county of Wilson and on the water of the Juniper and Millstone swamps, adjoining the lands of Irvin Eatman and William Peele heirs and others, and bounded as follows, viz: Beginning at a pine in the Millstone swamp in Curtis Glover's line, formerly Milicia Eatman's, the said Eatman and Peele's corner runs north 6 degrees west 47 poles to a pine stump and blackjack in Irvin Eatman's line, continues north 15 degrees west, 53 poles to a hickory tree; continues north 12 poles to a pine stump, a corner in Irvin Eatman's line; thence west with Eatman's and John Thompson's line 206 poles to a pine, Thompson's corner in said line; continues west 15 poles along a line of marked trees to a pine, a corner in a meadow; thence south 1 degree west along a line of marked trees to a large blackgum at the run of the Millstone swamp to the beginning, containing by estimation one hundred and fifty-six acres, be the same more or less. To have and to hold to the said Chacey Eatman, to her own use and benefit, and all of the appurtenances thereunto belonging, to dispose of at her death as she may think proper, by will or deed to whomsoever she choose to make her heirs of her said estate, and I, the said Hayman Eatman, do for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators and assigns, do forever quit claim of the said lot or parcel of land, and do warrant and defend the right and title of the said premises to the said Chacey Eatman, and am seized with the same to give title free and clear from all other persons whomsoever. In witness whereof, I, the said Hayman Eatman, have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and date first above written.

HAYMAN his X mark EATMAN.

Signed, sealed and delivered
in presence of

SIMEON TAYLOR,
EDWIN FULGHUM.

The execution of the foregoing deed was duly acknowledged by the grants, this 1st April, 1873. Register the same.

A. BARNES,
Judge of Probate.

Received and registered April 2d, 1873.

T. J. ROWE,
Register.

WILL.

In the name of God, Amen:

I, Chacey Eatman, of the State of North Carolina, county of Wilson, do hereby declare this to be my last will and testaments, being in sound mind and memory, do hereby declare that I bequeath and demise my estate as follows, that is to say, in the name of God, Amen:

Item the 1st. I bequeath and devise unto my beloved husband, Hayman Eatman, free privilege of the use of one hundred and fifty acres of land whereon we now live, to him and our own support for the natural life and sustenance and comfort during life, and after death a necessary expense for our burying in a decent and careful manner. So help me, God.

Item 2d. I bequeath to my beloved nephew, who I now have on hand in raising, Sidney Taylor, daughter of Jane Taylor, by a beloved daughter, and Arkansas Taylor, of the same parents, one hundred and fifty acres of land lying and being in the county of Wilson and on the waters of Millstone swamp, it being the tract of land whereon I now live, to be equally divided between the two daughters according to lot and equal estimation in valuation.

Item 3d. I also bequeath to my beloved nephew, Sidney Taylor and Arkansas Taylor, the above named heirs, one feather bed each, and chest and table, one China press to be Sidney Taylor's.

[Editor's note: This action to recover land was tried before J. Shepherd at the Superior Court Spring Term, 1884, of Wilson. His honor gave judgment for the plaintiff upon the facts agreed, and the defendants appealed. The conclusion of the justices of the February 1885 Term of the North Carolina Supreme Court was that there was no error. The judgment of the Superior Court was affirmed. *N. C. Reports, Vol. 92,* pages 563-572.

Haiman Eatman married Penelope Rountree on May 2, 1823, in Nash County. In 1850, Hayman Eatmon, age 50, farmer; and Penny, age 38; lived in Nash County. Living with them were Alsey, age 14; Betsy, age 14; Harriett, age 9; Thomas, age 7; Sallie, age 6; Pollie, age 20; and Ruffin, age 23, farmer.

Hamon Eatmon married Chasy Batts on June 26, 1853, in Edgecombe County. David Batts was the bondsman. In 1860, Hayman Eatmon, age 57, farmer; and Theresa Eatmon, age 50; lived in Oldfield District.

In 1870, Haywood Eatman, age 67, farmer; and Chary, age 54; lived in Oldfields Township. Sidney Taylor, age 5, female; Shorn Taylor, age 16, male, farm laborer; and Henry, age 12, male, farm laborer; lived with them. Jane Taylor, age 27, and Arkansas, age 1 month, lived two households away.

Hayman Eatman, age 63, married Sarah Davis, age 19, on Oct. 1, 1873. Sevison Taylor, D. B. Eatman, and S. J. Winborn were witnesses.

In 1880, Hamon Eatman, age 84, lived with his son A. J. Eatman, age 47, farmer; and his wife Nancy, age 49; in Oldfields

BUCKNER STITH DEED OF TRUST

Wilson Deeds, Book 1, page 504

Contributed by Mershon Davis White

This indenture made on the 8th day of Sept. AD 1859 between Buckner Stith of the first part & J. B. Davis of the second part int___ that whereas the said Buckner Stith is justly indebted to T. C. Davis; in the sum of Twenty 93/100 dols. with interest from Jun 1st 1856, the sum of fifty one 35/100 Dollars with interest from Jany 1st 1857, the sum of fifty five Dollars with interest from Jun 12/57 and the sum of one hundred & three Dollars with ints. From May 25th 1859, the above sums all due by note as will fully appear and whereas the said Buckner Stith is honestly desirous to secure the payment of the said debts now therefore this indenture witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of one Dollar to the said B. Stith in hand paid by the said J. B. Davis the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged in full the said B Stith hath granted bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant bargain give & sell unto the said Joseph B. Davis all of his house hold and kitchen furniture of any kind consisting in part of Bed matrasses bed steads Beureaus, Sideboards washstands Bed cloth chairs knives & forks, spoons pots kettles spades, ___ cook stove &c &c his equitable interest if any in a horse & buggy in his possession the property of the Trustee of Lucinda Stith his wife all his medicines of every Kind & all of my property of any & every Kind whether personal or real to him the said Joseph B. Davis his heirs executers, administraters in fee simple for ever ___ and discharged from any and all incumbrances whatever in special trust & confidence never the less that the said Joseph B. Davis shall and will hold keep use and apply the same to the uses & interests following and no other that is to say that if the aforesaid Debts and every part thereof together with the lawfull interest that may have accrued on the same shall not be fully paid off and satisfied on or before the 1st day of Jun. 1860, then & in that case it shall be lawful and shall be the duty of the said Joseph B. Davis being thereunto ___ of the said T. C. Davis having first advertised the same at the court house in the Town of Wilson & then other public places in the County of Wilson for the space of twenty days to proceed to sell the above specified estate at public auction to the highest bidder for ready money and out of the proceeds of the money arising from said sale to retain all necessary expenses of the trust and they pay off and discharge the said debts and interest or such part thereof as shall remain unpaid at the time if said sale and the surplus if any he shall truly & faithfully return to the said B. Stith, his executor & administraters in testimony whereof the said parties of these parts do hereunto set their hands & seals the day first above written

Signed Sealed and delivered in B D Stith (Seal)
Presence of D L Williams J B. Davis (Seal)

The execution of the foregoing Deed in trust is proven before me by the oath and examination of D. L. Williams the ___ witness thereto. Let it be registered. Sept. 8th 1859.

T. C. Davis clk.

Registered Sept. 8th 1859. R J Taylor Regr.

(Taylor vs. Eatman continued from page 33)

Township. Also living with them were I. H. Surency, age 20, born in Georgia, farmer; Mary, age 20, born in South Carolina; Sula, age 3, born in Georgia; Lula, age 1, born in North Carolina; and Ida Smith, age 7, born in Georgia.

Andrew J. Taylor was issued a license to marry Harriet Eatman on November 18, 1857. In 1860, A. J. Taylor, age 30, wheelwright; Harriet, age 21; and George N., age 1; lived in Oldfield District.

In 1870, Jackson Taylor, age 40, farmer; and his wife Harriet, age 34; lived in Oldfield Township. George, age 12, farm laborer; Sallie, age 10; Anna, age 8; Dallas, age 3; and Alminah, age 2; lived with them. Ervin Eatman lived two households away.

It would appear from the census records that Sidney Taylor was not a nephew of Chacey Eatman but a niece or perhaps a granddaughter. The wording of the will is most confusing.

Sources: *Nash County, North Carolina, Marriage Records, 1783-1868,* Frances T. Ingmire; *Nash County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1850,* Flora Brantley; *Early Marriages of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868, Ruth* Williams and Margarette Griffin; *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1860 and 1870,* both by Joan L. Howell; *Wilson County, North Carolina, 1880 Census*, J. Robert Boykin, III; *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899*, J. Robert Boykin, III]

(Owens Family, Continued from page 26)

North Carolina colonial land grants start with Ephraim in Bladon County, Henry in Craven County, John in Bladen County, Thomas in Edgcombe County and William in Duplin County. Other North Carolina grants went to William in Granville Couny, Robert in Halifax County, David in Edgecombe County, William in Johnston County and numerous others in counties far away from our part of the state. There was Henry Owens in Dobbs/Greene County in 1760 who is likely to be the direct ancestor of many of our local Owens families.

The earliest Owens marriages in Edgecombe County were Lott Owens to Letty Lester on January 29, 1800, and Jesse Owens to Patsey Joyner on September 10, 1811. Amos Owens was born in 1812 in the area between Fountain and Saratoga in Edgecombe County. He married Sarah "Sally" Felton on February 1, 1837. Henry Owens was the bondsman. By the time that Wilson became a county in 1855, there were Owens family members in goodly numbers in the Saratoga area.

We would be pleased to prepare a second column if anyone can provide further information on the origin of any of the Wilson County Owens families.

Henry and Sue Powell

[The March column will continue the Owens Family story.]

February 28, 2006 Meeting

Our February meeting was opened with our president Sue Powell welcoming our members and guests. Being of Welsh decent, she talked about Saint David's Day on March 1, and read an article on Saint David's Day and Cathedral and a poem honoring Welsh miners entitled "Gone From Darkness."

The minutes were approved as written in Trees. There was no treasurer's report because of computer problems. There were a number of newspaper clippings of local interest passed around for members to read.

Membership renewals are still coming in at about the same rate as in years past. We still have 2006 calendars available for purchase and of course, there are some of earlier years for anyone who might still be interested. They provide great information and pictures of the chosen area in their particular year!

Founding Families is still in the works with the Barnes households being researched at this time. The *2005 Trees of Wilson Index* should be available for mailing with the March issue of Trees.

An open house at the March meeting will celebrate the 15th anniversary of WCGS. Members are encouraged to bring family charts, photos, documents and other things of interest to share. There will be a prize for the best display, and members are encouraged to bring others who have an interest in family history.

An exciting evening is planned by the Wilson Sesquicentennial Committee which will be at the Ag Center on March 13 at 7 pm. WCGS will be represented and have a table there to share information with those interested in family history. Phil Mooring gave some highlights of the anticipated evening which will include prizes awarded to school students for the best papers presented on each assigned topic. Elementary students were assigned the Depression , high school students the Civil War, and college students wrote on WW II. It promises to be an enlightening evening with refreshments!

Greenfield 7th grade has an exhibit at the Arts Council with the winner's work being on exhibit at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh at a later date.

Reese Ferrell reported that The History Channel gave a presentation entitled "Diggin In The Past." Bobby Boykin told of new studies that show through DNA testing that some of the folks from the Lost Colony survived and live in eastern North Carolina and other areas.

Wilson Daily Times is offering a free publication entitled *Prime Eastern Carolina's Lifestyle After 50* that will be available on local newsstands. There will be an article on genealogy in the next issue.

There will be a genealogical fair on May 6 in Elizabeth City. The program will be on "Brick Walls and What To Do About Them." The price is $35.00 per person.

With the conclusion of business, Sue introduced our guest speaker for the evening, William "Billy" Lamm. He and his family had a family gathering in October for the cemetery marker dedication honoring Civil War soldiers Jonas Lamm and Thomas Jefferson Lamm, and their descendants. William introduced our Lamm guests, passed out copies of their October program, and showed his film of the occasion which he narrated.

In preparation for the glorious day, they had cleaned the cemetery, uncovered graves, ordered and placed stones for everybody buried there, including the Veterans markers for the two honored Civil War soldiers.

The large gathering included many family members, the Gen. Willaim Dorsey Pender Camp 1916 SCV, The United Daughters of the Confederacy, The Order of the Confederate Rose, Flower Girls, Canon Salutes by Reilly's Battery and musical salutes through out the day. The instruments were flute, harmonica, bass, guitar and trumpet.

Following the dedication, the descendants and guests had an informal gathering with lunch on the farm.

We appreciate Billy coming from Cary and sharing his family heritage with the members. Seeing this family honor its' past makes us all pause and gives us appreciation for our heritage!

Frances W. Roberson

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The room is large, attractive, and well arranged. The collection of books and microfilm contained is very extensive, and computers are available to search the internet. The library maintains subscriptions to Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest which you can access there. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM

- *Chronicles of Pitt County, Vol. 2*
- *North Carolina County Maps 1800,* by Dr. A. B. Pruitt
- *Abstracts of Records of Will, Inventories, Settlements of Estates, 1802-1812, Wake County, North Carolina, Vol. II,* by Frances Holloway Wynne.

CONNOR ITEMS.

The Wilson Times, Friday, April 17, 1896

The little 8-year-old son of John T. High died on the 6th inst., of a yellow chill. The funeral was held yesterday at Pleasant Grove Methodist church by Rev. B. B. Culbreth. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family.

Our farmers are all ready to plant cotton next week. I am afraid the farmers everwhere are going to plant too much cotton and run the prices down again. Tobacco plants are very small. The cool weather here kept them back, but this warm weather we are now having is bringing them out wonderfully. I think they will be large enough to set by the last of this month.

Elder Woodard failed to fill his appointed at Healthy Plains last Sunday. What the cause was we do not know.

Some of our farmers are planting corn. We are always on time up here in Old Fields. A Friend.

[Connor was a post office site from 1890-1904.]

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 802
Wilson, NC 27894
252-243-1660
www.wcgs.org

Batts, Davis, Eatman, Hill, Owens, Stith, Taylor, Watson

March 2006

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Books

___ They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States $15.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900. $40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00
(tax included) **NEW**

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882 $5.00
___ Wilson County Waterways $5.00

Miscellaneous

___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation $5.00 shipping included
___ Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) $5.00 shipping included
___ 2002 WCGS Calendar (Rock Ridge area) $5.00
___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township) $5.00
___ 2004 WCGS Calendar (Stantonsburg) $5.00
___ 2005 WCGS Calendar (Elm City) $5.00

Payment and shipping: Shipping cost for each book is $3.00. Shipping cost for maps is $3.00 for 1-4 items.
Add 7% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).
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☐ Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. **I enclose $20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*.** Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. **You may order books & membership through our website. http://www.wcgs.org.**

TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

April 2006 Volume 15 Number 4

President's Message

We begin our family research looking for names and dates in census records, wills, Bible records, and marriage records. We link generations together into a one dimensional picture of our family.

We go further looking for land records, estate inventories, estate sales, and estates records developing a two dimensional picture.

This is enough for many people; however, to get a three dimensional understanding of our ancestors, we need to go further.

Land records can help one to establish the community in which our ancestors lived. These were the persons with whom our ancestors socialized. Many of them may have attended the same church. Some of them may have been related. Their children may have played together, and some found their marriage partners in the neighborhood. Few young men traveled farther than a brief horse ride to court a young woman.

Court records further establish a sense of community. If an ancestor was assigned to work on a road, that road might have crossed his property and that of the others charged with building the road. If an ancestor was appointed as a guardian of orphans, he may have been a relative or a special friend of the family. There are many other things that court records can reveal.

A study of the history of a community can help us understand the economic and political climate in which they lived. Where did they shop? What goods were available for purchase? What events effected them? Don't stop your research until you can understand how they lived.

Sue Powell

APRIL 25TH MEETING

7:00 PM, Wilson County Public Library Conference Room.

The Wilson County Sesquicentennial Committee completed their year of special activities to commemorate the founding of Wilson County in 1855 with the presentation of awards in the Young Scholars Research—Writing Contest. On March 13, 2006, Phil Mooring, chairman, the other committee members, Jerry MacLean and Betty McCain (all WCGS members), and the judges, presented the eight winners with cash awards, and the Grand Prize winners read their essays. The students were assigned a specific time period to research and then write a journal or letters as if they were living in that period. The assignments were middle school—the depression era, high school—the Civil War, and higher education—World War II.

The essays were exceptional, and the students demonstrated another way of making Wilson County's history come alive. After hearing their essays, we asked the Grand Prize winners to read them again at our April meeting. Please join us on the 25th for a real treat! You will be well entertained by their efforts, proud of their abilities, and possibly inspired by their efforts to write your own families' stories in a narrative format. What an exciting project that would be to incorporate the family facts and the local history into a "story" of their lives!

CORRECTION!

Please change the date on the cover of the index you received last month to "2005."

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W. W. BATTS LETTER TO JESSE FARMER

Hugh B. Johnston Files

Joyners Depot, N. C.
June the 9 day, 1864

Mr. Jesse Farmer
Dear Brother
Sir:

I will inform you that I had the opportunity of talking with Dr. Satchwell last evening, and he told me to say to you that he could not have you detailed to come to the hospital, but if he could get you there, then he could keep you. He would be glad of such a man as I recommended you to be. I told him as you are a good, easy, peaceable fellow, and steady. He said if you were unwell, they had ought to let you go to the hospital, and if you can get them to let you go to the hospital, try and get them to send you to Wilson. This leaves me and family in tolerable good health, hoping as this may reach you safely and find you enjoying the best of health. I have not got any news to write to you worth your attention. I reckon if you were to write to Dr. Satchwell yourself, it would call his attention to it more. Tell all the boys in your Company howdy for me. I wish this War was closed. I hope to hear from you again soon. I remain your brother as ever.

W. W. Batts

[The envelope was addressed to:]
Jesse Farmer, Esq
Wilmington, N. C.
In care of Capt. W. R. Bass

[Editor's note: Dr. Solomon Sampson Satchwell was the surgeon in charge of Confederate Hospital No. 2 in Wilson during the War between the States. Under his direction, the Wilson hospital was one of the best in the state. With Wilson on the rail line, it served as a spill over unit from Richmond.]

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

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1916 CITY DIRECTORY

***The Wilson Times*, September 20, 1916**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

POPULATION OF WILSON

IS 14,550 ACCORDING TO THE NEW DIRECTORY—
REVIEW OF OUR RESOURCES
BY SECRETARY HOPE

The new city directory issued by the Hill company of Richmond states that the population of Wilson is 14,550 and the following splendid resume of our resources by Secretary Hope of the Chamber of Commerce should be read by every citizen of Wilson who desires to become acquainted with his own home town that he may boost the "Town To Tie To Where Worth Wins." The preface of the directory written by Mr. Hope follows:

"Wilson, N. C., with a population of 14,550 people, is situated in the Eastern part of the State on the main lines of the Atlantic Coast Line and Norfolk Southern Railroads in the heart of the most productive and richest farming section of the United States.

"More bright leaf tobacco is sold on this market than on any other in the world, the annual production amounting to more than 35,000,000 pounds in 1915, with prospects of approximately 40,000,000 pounds for the season of 1916, which begins with the 15th of August.

"Then, too, an abundance of cotton is raised in this section, which is all handled through Wilson dealers and warehouses, amounting to 25,000 bales annually, and many farmers are engaged in truck farming and cattle raising, which is found to be very profitable.

"Practically every dealer in leaf tobacco is represented here. Immense plants have been erected by such concerns as the American Tobacco company, P. Lorillard company and others. Wilson is the only tobacco market in the state with triple daily sales.

"Real and personal property was assessed for the year 1915 at $5,453,281, the actual value of such property being in the neighborhood of $13,000,000, which is an increase of $12,000,000 since 1890.

"Wilson offers more inducements to manufacturers in the way of low tax rate, municipally owned water, light, gas and power plants of the most modern equipment and construction. The tax rate is 80 cents on the $100,000, with rates for electric power scaling down from 3 cents per K. W. H. according to the amount consumed.

"Many industries guided by far-seeing men have taken advantage of these inducements, and as a result there are located in Wilson today forty-one thriving manufacturing plants, included among which are fertilizer factories, cotton and knitting mills, lumber mills of magnitude, the largest wagon and buggy manufacturers in the entire south and among the largest and best known in the United States; box factories, sash and door plants and woodworking plants of almost every description, ice factories and a varied line of industrial enterprises.

"Added to the features stated, an abundance of labor can be had at the most reasonable figure. This is true because of the excellent living conditions, her extremely mild climate permitting working out of doors practically the entire year, abundance of farm products raised for local consumption as well as for shipment to the northern markets, which tends to materially reduce the cost of living.

"Wilson is the most beautiful city in the state of North Carolina, with her handsome homes and very modern business houses, paved streets, well lighted by the new "White Way," and her people live well up to the reputation given the south for their wonderful hospitality.

"There are more than 275 stores, both wholesale and retail, covering

(Continued on page 39)

(Hill Directory continued from page 38)
practically every line. These concerns have been established here mainly because of the facts stated, together with the excellent transportation facilities permitting receipt and distribution of freight with great advantage.

"Because of competitive condition her transportation companies have established a very satisfactory adjustment of freight rates.

"We could not well overlook the passenger accommodations offered by the railroads, there being thirty-two local and express trains passing through Wilson daily, reaching every point North, South, East and West, each making a full stop for the purpose of taking on and letting off many passengers and tourists.

"There are many attractions for the tourist, among which are excellent hotel accommodations, both European and American Plans, the very best of roads for automobiling, the only Country Club between Richmond, Va., and Charleston, S. C., which is new and modern in every particular, affording a nine-hole golf course of one hundred and twenty-five acres, just three miles and a half from the city.

"The school system of Wilson compares very favorably with any in the country, there being several modern graded schools and a high school, with teachers of the highest ability and training. There is located at Wilson also the Atlantic Christian College, ranking as one of the best educational institutions in the state, which is attended by pupils from all over the Union.

"There is a handsome church edifice for nearly every denomination, including Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Christian and several others, which are well attended. This should be quite an inducement to settlers with families.

"The growth and development of Wilson has been very marked, the population having increased from 1,475 in 1900 to 14,550 in 1916, an increase of over 8000 per cent.

"There are to be found in Wilson people who are busy, happy and contented, having a beautiful city, industrially and commercially important, and such beautiful surroundings as to make one feel that it is the place where life is worth living.

"To add to her commercial importance and strength there are in Wilson four large and substantial banking institutions, several building and loan associations, daily and semi-weekly newspapers, efficient Fire and Police Departments.

"There are two large and well appointed hospitals for whites, and the colored folks have established a very creditable sanatorium, which is ably conducted.

"Wilson is forging ahead very noticeably in commercial and industrial development, and is destined to be one of the most important centres in the South. Her people believe in her wonderful possibilities and her business men have banded together in a Chamber of Commerce which, together with the Merchants' Association, are doing great work in the up-building of the community from the standpoints of her Commercial, Industrial, Civic and Social Welfare.

"Much can be said of the traveling men, who are known "Town Boosters," there being several hundred making their headquarters in Wilson, and they are fulfilling their part in the broad work of development and living up to their reputation.

"A very appropriate slogan has been adopted by the Commercial Organizations, "The Town To Tie To"—"Where Worth Wins," and this is being recognized throughout the land because of its wide distribution in various forms of advertising which the city is doing through its progressive and wide-awake business men and Commercial Organizations.

"Taking all things into consideration there is no more beautiful or better place in the State in which to live and do business, so

"When looking for a place to settle down
"In all the world there's no other town
"Like Wilson in the Old North State,
"So welcome are all within her gate
"One feels at home the very first day
"Nor ever wishes to go away.

"Chamber of Commerce,
"By C. E. Hope, Secretary."

JAMES P. EDMUNDSON OBITUARY

The Wilson Times, September 15, 1914

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Mr. J. P. Edmundson

Mr. J. P. Edmundson, well known by the older residents of the county and one of its progressive and active citizens when he resided here during his early life passed away at his home near Willow Springs in Johnston county early this morning in his 90th year.

He was born at the old Edmundson home five miles east of Wilson in 1825 and left this county after the war.

He is survived by his wife who was Miss Susan McLean and eight children, one of whom is Dr. J. R. Edmundson, and two sisters, Mrs. L. W. Brewer and Mrs. Tynes of this city.

The children are: Dr. J. R. Edmundson, E. S. Edmundson, of Smithfield, N. C., Wright Edmundson, of Texas, Miss Alice Edmundson, Mrs. J. W. Purdie, Dunn, Mrs. Thos. Turner and Mrs. W. P. Turner Garner, Mrs. Thos. Stroud, Chapel Hill.

[Editor's notes: Typed as originally printed.
At the time of the 1860 census, James P. Edmundson was living in the household of Wright, b. 1797, and Susan Edmundson, b.1790, in the Saratoga District of Wilson County. Also in that household were Zellah Edmundson, age 36; Penelope Edmundson, age 26; and Susan Edmundson, age 24. In the 1870 census, the same household was much smaller in size and economic value. There were Susan, the mother, Penelope, and Zilly along with Nancy Mumford, age 30, a domestic servant, the 10 year old Washington Mumford, and Stephen Winborn, age 24, who was farming. The Nov. 1, 1860, marriage record of Penelope Edmundson to Joel A. Tynes lists his parents as Luther Epps and Mary L. Tynes and her parents as Wright and Suckey Edmundson. They were married by C. C. Dodsen, Min. at Suckey Edmundson's residence. There is a record of the marriage of a Susan W. Edmundson to Wm. S. Brewer on Dec. 2, 1866, performed by James Mahoney, minister. Sources: *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1860,* Joan L. Howell; *Wilson County, North Carolina, Federal Census of 1870,* Joan L. Howell; *Marriages of Wilson County, North Carolina, 1855-1899,* J. Robert Boykin.]

JAMES HENRY MARSHBURN

Edited by F. D. Swindell
***Wilson Daily Times,* April 18, 1913**
Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

[Editor's note: This is the second article in the "Who's Who in Wilson" series of five essays by F. D. Swindell which began in the March 2006 issue of *Trees.* Thomas Crowder Davis was the first subject. The essays about Elias G. Barnes, George W. Connor, and Robert Bruce Evans will be included in future issues of *Trees.*]

Just nine years before the Steer, Express, Unlimited, dashed across the continent with gold thirsty miners and changed California from a Garden of Eden into what is now a tuberculosis colony and a Japanese dumping ground, Rebecca Blow Marsburn presented her loving spouse Samuel with a husky little brat, whom they named James. Fearing this an insufficient titulization, they added Henry. So it was, that in the year of Our Lord 1840—month, February, day the 14th, —hour not remembered—place, Edgecombe county, James Henry Marshburn squalled his howdy do to the world and began to suck his toes.

Youthful Predilections.

Several years later, Jimmy having graduated from the toe-sucking habit, widened his orbit of pleasures and developed a zeal for fishing. His first essay at the art made famous by Isaac Walton was not blissfully successful. You see Jimmy had been told of Jonah and the whale. It happened that one day when mamma was napping, said Jimmy hiked joyfully and yet fearfully towards the banks and shady coolness of Swift Creek. He "totted" along a wiggly worm and a wobbly pole while his heart beat with wild anticipation. The fascinating spot was reached at last—and the world was his. Then suddenly a bull frog (the likes does not exist now-a-days) about the size of a motor car or a Hackney wagon, "rousted" up and made a noise like a Omaha tornado. Jimmy mistook it for a whale, and as Julius Caesar remarked of the Helvetians, he gave himself to flight. But although feased for the nonce, Jimmy possessed the courage of a soldier, and soon afterwards made another pass at the fishing business. The neighbors declared that he landed more perch, red fins, jacks, chubs, and cat fish in two or three years than all the youngsters put together.

A Touch of Irish.

James Henry Marshburn had an Irish grandad or great grandad. He admits the fact—but that isn't at all necessary. His record and his countenance confirm it. The only bit of evidence to the contrary is, that as a kid he feared a girl as much as a New York cop does Whitman. The only explanation of this remarkable characteristic is that he was a generation or so removed from compelling spell of the blarney stone and the ripe, red lips of the Irish colleen.

However, when it came to scrapping Jimmy ignored the trifling matter of once or twice removed. He was Irish, straight from the old sod, as bold and quick on the trigger as any O'Toole ever dared to be. He manhandled the neighborhood laddies as a daily diversion and only remained neutral with the buzz saw because it belonged to his dad.

Came to Wilson.

At the age of seventeen, unkissed and undefeated, James followed papa Samuel (whose name should have been Isaac) and mother Rebecca over into Wilson. Things went along peacefully for awhile. In the morning mother sent him to school and in the afternoon father worked him around the saw mill. Had Jimmy been an ordinary lad this kind of life might have sufficed him, but it happened that he wasn't. He was a mixture of Hannibal, Napoleon, Prince Eugene and Frederick the Great. As we have said, there had been fistic manifestations of this martial streak from the very beginning. These were but mild promises of things to come.

The Sixties.

When the sixties hove in sight and sure enough trouble between the yankee traders and the southern planters gave promise of battlefields and gore, James, without any previous consultation with parental powers, hit the trail for Nash county and adventure.

On a Saturday night he and H. A. Tart, brother-in-law and fellow adventurer, walked into Rocky Mount and enlisted in Captain Hammon's company. Shortly afterwards James got himself transferred to the field artillery under Ramseur. Hardly had this transfer been effected when he learned that a Wilson company had been organized and captained by Jessie S. Barnes. Immediately he set the transfer machinery to working again with the result that he landed with the Wilson boys and with them was sent to Fort Macon, and a little later to Garysburg, where the companies were formed into regiments. The Wilson company became a part of the Fourth North Carolina under the command of Col. George B. Anderson, which was a part of General Jackson's corps. Thus James served in the immortal army of northern Virginia.

A W___ Aside. [the paper was torn here]

Here for a ___bandon our flippant vein. It would be sacrilege to speak lightly and without reverence of the days and years between Sumpter and Appomattox. These were wonderful days, fearful days. Bravery, strategem, soldierly skill and valor immortalized an army and a people and made a pattern for the world. Robert E. Lee donned the gray and became the premier warrior of all times; Jackson left academy life and in a hurricane of brilliant achievement, won eternal fame and admiration; a half million men answered the call to arms and followed the Bonnie Blue Flag—many to death, a few to Appomattox.

Soldier Mashburn.

Through victories and defeats; through the hell and agony, the glory and the suffering of these years, James Henry Mashburn served like a man, a hero and a southerner in the army of northern Virginia. They wounded him again and again but ever he stuck to the firing line and fought for the southern cause. He volunteered for dangerous missions, and one accomplished, he volunteered again. He made history at Cold Harbor, Spottsylvania Court House, Chancellorsville, in the Wilderness, at Gettysburg, in fact in almost every bat-

(Continued on page 41)

(James Marshburn, Continued from page 40)
tle of the war, and is one of the few who never accepted the surrender as a fact.

Soldier James during these days of hostilities very naturally entertained the idea that certain civil laws antagonistic to the appropration of personal property otherwise than by gift or sale, were of necessity in abeyance. This idea was pretty generally concurred in by Johnny Rebs and Yanks especially as regarded provender. Whether this conception of things was erronious or not, Soldier Marshburn frequently waxed hungry and just as frequently he went foraging. Since the statue of limitations, at this time precludes any possibility of prosecution the Chief smilingly admits that during those days of famine he larcenicaly froze on to everything from a turnip to a sheep.

Capture.

One day before the surrender James Marshburn was captured in an engagement near Farmville. He was in excellent fighting trim on that occasion, and it has been said, that had his ammunition not played out when it did he would have fertilized that end of Greene county with yankee blood. After his capture he was taken to Newport News and locked in prison. He remained in durance vile for two long months rather than take the oath of allegiance. Finally the federal government allowed his liberty, but failed to supply transportation. Starved, thin and weakened by his wounds, but just as game as ever, he turned his face southward and struck the trail for home.

Many and many a southern soldier remembers this last march—this march back home through a ruined country and often to a ruined home. Broken in health from toils and wounds, broken hearted for the cause that was lost, poor in pocket and goods—for they had given all—they dragged themselves wearily to the fireside that had been theirs and often to meet a tragedy. Chief found his sister lying dead.

Marriage.

In October 1866, James Henry Marshburn having conquered his fear of damsels, pesuaded [sic.] Martha Farmer that he was a good thing matrimonially. She has remained of that opinion ever since. These two went to farming and found happiness in the aftermath of battle.

On The Force.

In 1883 or thereabouts, James Marshburn forsook the plow for the billy and entered upon his thirty years task of corraling evil doers and preserving the peace and dignity of the state. He fitted the position so nicely and won the regard of his fellow citizens so completely that he had cinched the job for life.

The younger generation in Wilson can never forget the old Chief and his dog Jim. These two presented a unique picture. Chief with his stately, martial stride, his silky light hair peeping from beneath his helmet, his celtic-American face fringed with a soft white beard, and his blue eyes flashing a stiff but sincere greeting upon every passerby, moving slowly up and down his beat, followed by Jim, rat terrier, black and infintissimal. Jim, to some extent, shared his masters antipathies. He would wag his tail at the strains of Dixie and bristle at the word Yankee. Jim is dead now and the Chief patrols his beat alone save for the little children who love him.

A Lover and Loved of Children.

When it comes to children, Chief is in a class all by himself. He is the father of none and yet the father of all. Hundreds of little shavers claim him for their very own. His appearance on the street plays havoc with kindergarten rules and nurse control. The kiddies love him one and all, and he loves the kiddies. Just put it down that when you see the Chief walking down the street unaccompanied by some toddling admirer, it is sandman's hour or a rainy day.

Something He Does Not Talk About.

Chief learned economy during the war and has practiced it ever since. Save for a new uniform now and then, the every day necessities of life, and candy for his baby friends, he has no expenses, and yet he has not saved a cent. Chief does not talk about this himself and probably will whack us with his cane when he hears we have been talking, but nevertheless we are going to tell on him. He spend one half his income to other folks. The folks, you know, who are having a hard time of it—the fellows that are hungry and ragged, too old to work and too proud to beg. That is only a part of it but it is Chief's private affair and we won't tell any more.

Conclusion.

Chief looks his seventies full in the face without a quiver. Years may eventually break the vigor of his manhood, but if his constitution equals his courage, it will take a hundred of them to do so.

Here's hoping that the grand old man will outlive every soldier of the grand army and have the satisfaction of placing a white rose of forgiveness upon the grave of the last yankee.

[Editor's note: An article about the Marshbourn family was included in the January 2002 issue of *Trees.*

James was the son of Samuel and Susan Forbes Marshbourn and stepson of Rebecca. James made his will March 21, 1919, and it was probated on April 5. James' wife Martha Ann Parmelia Farmer was the daughter of Arthur Dew Farmer and his wife Catherine Farmer. Martha was born June 14, 1850, and died March 13, 1916.

James and Martha reared Moses Thomas Farmer after the death of his mother Nancy Farmer. His father John Williams Farmer was brother of Martha Farmer Marshbourn. Nancy (Farmer) Farmer was the daughter of Ceborne and Theresa Thomas Farmer.

James H. Marshbourne and his brother Samuel D. served in Company F, Fourth North Carolina Regiment. According to *North Carolina Troops: 1861-1865,* James was promoted to Corporal on March 13, 1863, captured at Fredericksburg, Virginia, on May 3, 1863, confined at Washington, D. C., until transferred to City Point, Virginia on May 10, 1863, for exchange. He rejoined his company prior to September 1, 1863, was promoted to Sergeant on September 6, 1863. He was wounded at Snicker's Gap, Virginia, on July 18, 1864. He rejoined his company prior to April 6, 1865, when he was captured at Burkeville, Virginia, and confined at Newport News, Virginia, until he was released on June 30, 1865.]

JESSE FARMER
Hugh B. Johnston Files

Jesse Farmer, son of John Farmer and wife Nancy Barnes, was born in lower Edgecombe County on July 26, 1821, and died of face cancer in Wilson County on August 18, 1876. On October 15, 1843, he married Mary "Polly" Batts, daughter of William Batts, Jr., and wife Martha Woodard with James B. (X) Batts as bondsman She was born on February 23, 1825, and died on July 1, 1894. Both lie under tombstones in their family graveyard about three miles east of Elm City and a little to the left of the road from Batts' Crossroads to Pender's Crossroads.

In the Edgecombe County Census of 1850 (p. 164), Jesse Farmer and his wife and three children [John William, 6, Martha, 5, and Elizabeth, 2] were living with his mother and father.

On February 12, 1853, Jordan C. Horn sold Jesse Farmer for $1,200.00 two tracts: 194 acres on both sides of the Rail Road and on both sides of White Swamp adjoining Arthur Robbins, Great Branch, William Batts, Josiah Farmer, A. Farmer, W. L. Farmer, Stephens John Gardner, the Steam Mills lot, and Deep Bottom Branch; and 2 ¾ acres adjoining John Gardner north of the County Road and along the Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road; witnessed by Joshua Barnes and Willie W. Flowers. (Edgecombe County, Deed Book 26, p. 111). On March 7, 1853, Thomas W. and Nancy Yelverton, Jesse Farmer, John W. and Delpha Wilkins, George T. B. and Edith Yelverton, William D. Farmer, John Farmer, and Arthur and Lincy Barden of Edgecombe and Wayne Counties sold Isaac B. Farmer of Edgecombe County for $200.66 ⅔ each their seven ninths interest in 442 acres "held and owned by the late John Farmer" north of Tosnot Swamp adjoining Elizabeth Farmer and Larry D. Farmer, witnessed by Joshua Barnes, Redin Bridgers, and R. H. Pender. (Wilson County, Deed Book 1, p. 484)

On January 9, 1854, James J. Taylor sold Jesse Farmer for $28.00 a tract of 3 ½ acres on the Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road adjoining J. Brinkley, Jesse Farmer, "south of where the old steam mill stood," William Farmer, and the Public Road, witnessed by P. H. Simms, and John W. Farmer. (Deed Book 26, p. 394) On December 16, 1854, William G. Pate mortgaged to Jesse Farmer (to cover a note of $250.00) a lot of two acres in Wilson on the Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road adjoining E. G. Clark, Mr. Battle and Tempy Cornish, witnessed by Josiah Farmer and A. D. Farmer. (Deed Book 1, p. 22)

On April 25, 1855, H. D. C. and Rebecca Mitchel of Nash County sold Jesse Farmer of Wilson County for $100.00 a tract of 69 acres adjoining John Batts, Asael Farmer, and W. E. J. Shallington witnessed by J. D. Rountree. (Deed Book 1, p. 12) On July 24, 1855, James Viverett, Jr., of Nash County, James Wiggins, and W. W. Batts sold Jesse Farmer for $900.00 a tract of 195 acres south of Town Creek and adjoining Hartwell Williford, William Batts, John G. Williams, and the heirs of Abram T. Sharp; also 45 acres south of Town Creek adjoining Hartwell Williford, James W. Barnes, and William Batts; both tracts were lately owned by the Stephen Taylor estate; witnessed by Elias Barnes. (Deed Book 1, p. 58)

On August 24, 1855, Jesse Farmer sold Willie H. Robbins for $1,550.00 a tract of 202 ½ acres on both sides of the Rail Road and on both sides of White's Swamp adjoining Arthur Robbins, Great Branch, William Batts, Josiah Farmer, Asahel Farmer, William L. Farmer, and Deep Bottom Branch, witnessed by W. L. Farmer and Augustin Farmer. (Deed Book 1, p. 96) On January 20, 1858, Jesse Farmer sold Willie G. Barnes for $2,250.00 a tract of 195 acres and one of 45 acres (bought on July 24, 1855), witnessed by James W. Barnes and William D. Farmer. (Deed Book 1, p. 362) On January 26, 1858, John F. (x) and Rebecca (x) Moore sold Jesse Farmer for $500.00 about 25 acres in Edgecombe County formerly the property of Whitmell Williams adjoining Walter Henderson, Gray Armstrong, Martha Braswell, and W. D. Long, witnessed by R. W. Clayton. (Deed Book 27, p. 748)

On February 1, 1858, Stephen (x) Privett sold Jesse Farmer for $2,400.00 a tract of 384 acres in Wilson County on Spring Marsh at Town Creek adjoining Elizabeth Mumford, Smith, and the late Thomas Horn, witnessed by James F. Mercer and Granbury Ethridge. (Deed Book 1, p. 481) On April 7, 1858, Jesse Farmer sold Wilie W. Wilisoms for $2,200.00 the preceding tract adjoining Thomas Horn and Wilson Horn (sons of the late Thomas Horn) etc., witnessed by W. W. Batts. (Deed Book 1, p. 468) On September 6, 1858, Willie G. Barnes sold Jesse Farmer for $2,250.00 a tract of 195 acres and one of 45 acres south of Town Creek adjoining Hartwell Williford, William Batts, John G. Williams, and the heirs of Abram T. Sharp, witnessed by W. W. Batts. (Deed Book 1, p. 475)

Jesse Farmer figured in a rather amusing incident that occurred several years prior to the War Between the States. One Saturday morning he had taken his family to the regular meeting at Upper Town Creek (then Union) Primitive Baptist Church, and it was in the very hottest part of the summer. Not only was he barefooted, but his dress omitted such confining items as belt, suspenders, and necktie. Homespun cotton shirt, breeches, and drawers were considered ample summer clothing in the rural Wilson County of that period, although a few men of wealth or town residence fancied boots and more ostentatious articles of wearing apparel.

During the course of the religious services on this particular Saturday morning, a Tennessee horse-trader arrived at the crossroads store with his attendants and a drove of mules and horses. Since livery stables were rather few and far between in those days, itinerant traders could do a good business throughout the countryside. As soon as Church turned out, the male members of the congregation joined the men of the neighborhood who had already gathered to examine the stock and to make possible trades or purchases.

Jesse Farmer stood inconspicuously at the edge of the crowd and began to look carefully at the mules, having little to say himself while his companions indicated their preferences and remarked freely upon the qualities of the other animals. One of the men noted Grandfather's interest and asked, "Mr. Farmer, have you picked yourself out a mule yet?"

"Yes, I like this one best," he replied, pointing to his

(Continued on Page 43)

(Jesse Farmer, continued from page 42)
choice.

It happened that the owner of the troup was standing near enough to overhear this verbal exchange, and it occurred to him that he might put the crowd in a good buying humor by having some fun at Grandfather's expense, so he said loudly enough to attract general attention, "Mr. Farmer, all of these mules are for sale, and I should be very glad to do some business with you. What sort of an offer will you make me?"

"Well, I hadn't really thought about buying another mule, but if your price is right, I might be able to use one with that new ground I'm clearing up. What will you take for him?"

The trader appraised Grandfather slowly from his bare head to his bare feet before making any reply. Ordinarily," he declared, "I would ask about one hundred and twenty-five dollars for such a mule, but I will sell him to you at a bargain for twenty-five dollars, provided that you have all the money in your pocket in ready cash."

"That is certainly as cheap as dirt," replied Grandfather, "and I'll be glad to take him off your hands at that price." He then reached into his hip pocket, produced a roll of bills as big as his fist, and rapidly counted twenty-five dollars into the unwilling hand of the trader who was obviously "hacked" by the unexpected turn of events and the laughter of the crowd.

"Mr. Farmer," he managed to say, "I made the price, and I'll stick to what I said, but I'll be damned if I don't watch a barefooted man from now on!"

In 1860 Jesse Farmer built his new home, and it was first occupied on the night of April 30. One side of one room consisted entirely of built-in cupboards which were very useful for storing canned food, honey, etc. He had at one time about a hundred gums of bees and usually had great jars of honey on hand for use or sale. This house is still standing in 1986 but is unpainted and in a bad state of repair.

On July 5, 1860, [at the time of the 1860 Wilson County Census] they were living in Joyner's [Joyners and Gardners] District No. 611, 606 and were worth $11,635.00. [The household was comprised of Jesse Farmer, age 38, farmer; Mary, age 34; John W., age 15; Martha, age 14; Elizabeth, age 11; Edwin B., age 8; Mary, age 4; Nancy, age 2; and Woodard B., age 1 month.]

At the beginning of the Civil War, Jesse Farmer is said to have owned about 316 acres of land and eight slaves: Blind Nellie, Old Clarkey, her daught Ailsey, Ailsey's daughter Dinah, and Dinah's children Jim, Jerry, Hilliard, and Cindy.

On July 20, 1863, Jesse Farmer went to Goldsboro and enlisted as a private in Captain William R. Bass' Company of unattached Wayne County Partisan Rangers, which in August were assigned to guard the batteries below Wilmington. From time to time they guarded railroads and bridges from Federal incursions, but were never sent beyond the borders of North Carolina. On October 2, 1863, Captain Bass's Company was lettered L and assigned to the 66th North Carolina Infantry Regiment; but became Company C, 68th North Carolina Regiment, in the fall of 1864. On December 27, 1864, Jesse Farmer was admitted to Pettigrew General Hospital No. 13 in Raleigh, and was transferred to General Military Hospital No. 2 in Wilson on January 1, 1865.

While Jesse Farmer and his son John were fighting in the Confederate Army, "Uncle Foote" Jenkins was his overseer and helped Grandmother Polly operate the plantation. The following incident happened one afternoon early in 1865 while "Uncle Foote" was away on business and old "Aunt Clarkey" was lying a corpse in a cabin in the edge of the yard. (She had come from the Quaker community in Wayne County.)

Jim O'Neal, overseer of the adjoining plantation owned by Dr. George Sugg, came into the Farmer yard with several of the Sugg slaves, one of whom was nearly naked and bound with leather straps. He asserted that this slave, in the company of Farmer's Jerry, had stolen and disposed of one of his hogs. Grandmother Farmer told O'Neal that she was positive that her boy had not had anything to do with the theft, and that she was not going to allow him to be whipped for something that he had not done. O'Neal declared that he was going to whip him anyhow. She then ordered Jerry to defend himself from being whipped, and he picked up the axe from the woodpile and walked around behind the barn with it. O'Neal threatened and cursed trying to coerce his slaves to bring Jerry back, but they refused to move, nor did O'Neal himself dare make the attempt. However, he satisfied himself before leaving the Farmer Place by having the bound slave, Bill, taken under the lean-to of "Aunt" Clarkey's cabin and there given a terrific beating with long hickory switches in the hand of the other slaves, while Grandmother and her children remained unwilling but powerless witnesses. One of them said later that Bill "almost smoked" from the whipping.

On December 2, 1867, Jesse Farmer of Wilson County sold W. W. Parker of Edgecombe County for $500.00 a tract of 30½ acres south of Tar River, east of the Wilmington & Weldon Rail Road, and adjoining Gray Armstrong; W. S. Battle, Rebecca Moore, W. D. Long, and the County Road, witnessed by E. Rosenthal and R. S. Petway. (Deed Book 30, p. 428)

On July 23, 1868, James H. Williams, E. J. Parker and H. Williford, and W. W. Batts, J. P., met at Jesse Farmer's home and "proceeded to lay off and set apart a Homestead of personal and real estate" according to the North Carolina Constitution, Article 10, Sections 1 and 2: 236 acres worth $944, bay mare mule $50, sorrel ditto $50, bay mare $25, sorrel horse $75, 18 hogs $54, 8 cattle $40, household and kitchen furniture $75, farming utensils $10, 6 beehives $6, 240 pounds of meat $48, 20 pounds of lard $4, and 9 barrels of corn $63, a total of $1,444.

Jesse Farmer of Wilson County had been "duly adjudged BANKRUPT, under the Act of Congress establishing a Uniform System of Bankruptcy throughout the United States, and appears to have conformed to all the requirements of law in that behalf" and was "forever discharged from all debts and claims which by said Act are made possible against his estate" as of August 24, 1868, by District Judge George W. Brooks under case No. 920, District Court of The United States, Pamlico District of North Carolina. This was filed on February 3, 1870, at the City of New Berne, by Clerk Charles Hibbard after Jesse Farmer had received a Certificate of Protection at Wilmington on August 28, 1868;

(Continued on page 44)

(Jesse Farmer, continued from page 43)
"against arrest for non-payment of any and all claims provable in Bankruptcy against his estate."

In the Wilson County Census of 1870, Joyner's District, (p. 17) their property was worth $3,800.00. [The family (household #140) was listed as Jesse Farmer, age 51, farmer; Mary, age 45; Edwin, age 16, farm laborer; Mary, age 15; Nancy, age 13; Woodard, age 9; Louisa, age 6; and Wilson, age 5.]

On June 28, 1870, Isaac B. and Nancy Farmer in consideration of love "towards the family of Jesse Farmer and the sum of one dollar" deeded to Polly Farmer, wife of Jesse Farmer, "for life reminder to her children begotten by Jesse Farmer" a tract of 190 acres south of Town Creek adjoining Hartwell Williford, the old Batts line, John G. Williams, and Jeremiah Batts; witnessed by George W. Blount. (Deed Book 15, p. 43)

On September 29, 1873, Jesse and Polly Farmer gave David Williams a release on his trusteeship (the will of William Batts in October Court 1856 intrusted David Williams with $800.00 for Polly Farmer and her children), since said Williams had procured the assignment to her of land worth this or more, witnessed by George W. Blount. (Deed Book 9, p. 389)

On Friday, October 29, 1880, the Hon. Josephus Daniels who was then the local news editor of The Wilson Daily Advance wrote as follows in connection with the murder of John Farmer by his brother Edwin: "Mr. Jesse Farmer, who is now dead, the father of John and Ed, was a highly respected citizen, and their mother who is now living is an estimable lady, enjoying the respect and confidence of all who know her. Their family connections are indisputably good." An account of this "Horrible Fratricide" appeared in *The Tarboro Southerner* on November 4, 1880, p. 3, column 3.

It is said that the main characteristic of Grandmother Polly was her silence. Grandfather's favorite Hymn was No. 355, "When I Can Read My Title Clear". He died from a cancer of the mouth, presumably induced by the habitual smoking of a clay-stemmed pipe. On December 15, 1894 the 200 acres of the widow Polly Farmer were divided as follows: (1) Edwin Farmer through his son John Thomas Farmer; (2) J. W. and the other heirs of John William Farmer; (3) James Wilson Farmer; (4) Woodard Batts Farmer; (5) J. T. and Nannie Sharpe; (6) Thomas and Louisa E. Brown; (7) heirs of D. L. Batts in right of their mother "along Batts's line"; and (8) heirs of Jerry Whitehead in their mother's right. (Deed Book 42, p. 275)

Children of Jesse and Mary (Batts) Farmer:

1. John William Farmer was born August 19, 1844, and was murdered October 26, 1880, by his brother Edwin Barnes Farmer. He married Nancy Wiggins, daughter of James and Milbray Taylor Wiggins, in October 1865. She was born July 12, 1841, and died March 18, 1909. They had six children: Mary Jane, born October 15, 1866; Martha Elizabeth, born in April 1868; Nancy Ella; James Jesse, born January 10, 1874; John Thomas; and Sallie Louise.
2. Martha Farmer was born May 24, 1846, and died March 24, 1888. She married Jeremiah "Jerry" Whitehead (July 25, 1844-May 5, 1919), son of John and Sarah Batts Whitehead. They had six children: John Jesse, born January 8, 1868; Sarah Elizabeth Mary "Mamie," born August 8, 1872; William Wilson "Willie," born December 16, 1875; Nancy Louisa, born December 10, 1877; Martha Jane "Mattie," born December 24, 1883; and Cooper Columbus, born April 19, 1887.
3. Elizabeth "Bettie" Farmer was born February 11, 1848, and died September 22, 1880. On February 11, 1866, she married David Lawrence Batts, son of Willie Jordan Batts and wife Elizabeth Williford. He was born July 20, 1842, and died January 8, 1927. They had six children: Mary Elizabeth, born November 12, 1866; Martha Nancy, born March 5, 1869; David Lawrence, Jr., born 1871 and died 1873; William LaFayette, born April 1873; John Farmer, born September 17, 1876; Claudia Susan, born August 17, 1878.
4. Edwin Barnes Farmer was born October 28, 1851. On December 14, 1871, he married Della Jane Williford, daughter of Hartwell and Elizabeth Taylor Williford. She was born in 1857 and died in 1879. They had two children, James Luther, born in 1872, and John Thomas, born in 1874, died in 1879.
5. Mary Farmer was born on June 3, 1855, and died on June 30, 1871. She married Mathew "Mack" Whitehead (May 5, 1849-June 3, 1885). They had one child, John Matthew Jesse, who was born on June 30, 1871, and died on July 12, 1871.
6. Nancy "Nannie" Farmer was born on March 11, 1858, and died December 25, 1938. On January 20, 1876, she married John Thomas "Jack" Sharpe, son of David and Emily Sharpe. He was born October 17, 1856, and died September 24, 1907. They had eleven children: Hattie Lula, born May 1, 1877; Jesse David, born January 3, 1879; John William, born August 26, 1880; Charles Clay, born August 4, 1882; Mary Emma, born May 7, 1884; Thadeus Pender "Thad," born May 29, 1889; Nancy Jane, born December 17, 1885; Martha Margaret, born March 17, 1891; Elizabeth Rosa "Bettie," born March 30, 1893; Thomas Farmer Pope "Tom," born September 20, 1897; and Nancy Elsie Bomma, born September 18, 1899.
7. Woodard Batts Farmer was born on April 30, 1860, and died January 31, 1938. On January 2, 1878, he married Katie Flood, daughter of Robert and Martha Ann Weaver Flood. She was born September 24, 1857, and died February 25, 1932. They had nine children: Lillie Jennette, born December 13, 1878; Jesse Robert "Buddie," born August 11, 1880; Julius James, born July 7, 1882; William Walter, born February 11, 1884; Joshua Lawrence, born April 22, 1886; Blossie Woodard, born March 30, 1889; John Herbert, born February 25, 1892; Martha, born September 15, 1893; and Minnie Lee, born April 28, 1895.
8. Louisa Ella "Lou" Farmer was born on July 28, 1862, and died on September 8, 1895. She was the second wife of Matthew Whitehead, and after his death married Thomas Brown.

(continued on page 47)

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF RALEIGH REASON
SIGNED APRIL 22,1912
WILSON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Contributed by Marie Little Bailey

Copied from the original will

On his tombstone, there is no "s" on the end of Raleigh's last name "Reason"

In the name of God, Amen, I Raleigh Reasons, of the county and state above written, being of sound mind and memory, but considering this my last will and testament, that is to say:

First: I desire that my executors hereinafter named, do provide for my body a decent burial suitable to the wishes of my relatives and friends and that they pay all my just debts and funeral expenses out of the first moneys coming into their hands as a part of belonging to, my estate.

Second: I devise and bequeath my light bay mare, harness and buggy to my wife, Mary Reason, and my son, Charley Reasons, for the use and benefit of my said wife during her life time, and then to Charley and his heirs in fee simple forever.

Third: I devise and bequeath to my grandchild Jimmie Eason [given name is "Minister"], the picture of his mother, Cora Eason, which I had enlarged.

Fourth: I devise and bequeath to my son Whitaker Reasons my yellow walnut rocking chair, and to Harley Reasons, my son, I devise my silver watch.

Fifth: I devise and bequeath to my beloved wife for and during the term of her natural life my feather bed, covering, pillows, bolster and bedstead, and after her death to my granddaughter, Annie Little, if living.

Sixth: I devise and bequeath to my beloved wife for the term of her natural life, two fifths of the money I have on hand, or in the bank, or loaned out, or in any manner due to me, at the time of my death, the same to go into the hands of my two sons Harley and Whitaker Reasons as trustees, to have, hold and pay out the same, or as much as may be needed, for the support and maintenance of my said wife during her life, and the said trustees are required to make annual reports of the money received and paid out for my said wife as such trustees to the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wilson County, produce their vouchers therefore, and the said Clerk will audit and approve said accounts as the law required him to do with the accounts and reports of executors, administrators and guardians. And any portions of the said two fifths of my said money remaining in the hands of said trustees, and not used for the purposes aforesaid, at the time of my wife's death, I devise and bequeath to my four sons, Harley Reasons, Guy Reasons, Whitaker Reasons and Charley Reasons, share and share alike.

Seventh: I devise and bequeath all the balance of my estate, real, personal and mixed, to my said four sons, Harley, Guy, Whitaker and Charley Reasons to be equally divided between them share and share alike, provided that, in case any one or more of my said sons shall die before my death, then his of their share, or shares, of my said estate shall be secured to and vest in his or her children, if any, and if no child or children be left by either of them, then his or their share or shares to vest on and belong to the other sons living at my death. Provided that each of my said sons shall, in the division of my said estate among them, account for any and all advancements made by me to him, or them, and each of them, during my life, and for an account of the advancements made to them, or any of them, by me, reference is made to my account book in which I shall have made accounts of the same. And lastly, I hereby appoint my two sons, Harley and Whitaker Reasons, executors of this my last will and testament to execute the same and every part and clause hereof according to the true intent and meaning of the same. Hereby revoking and declaring void all and every other will or wills heretofore made by me, I declare this my last will and testament. Witness my hand and seal, this April 22, 1912.

Raleigh x Reasons ("x" was his mark)

Signed, sealed, declared and published as and for his last will and testament by Raleigh Reasons on the presence of us, who at his request, in his presence, and in the presence of each other, have subscribed our names as witnesses thereto.

Witness: F. D. Swindell J. D. Bardin

[Editor's Note: Please see Ms. Bailey's article "The Reason Family" in the November 2005 issue of *Trees.*]

JONATHAN D. ROUNTREE LETTER
Hugh B. Johnston Files

Charleston, S. C[a]. January 16th/1846

My dearest Malvina,

According to promise I wrote you immediately after I arrived in this place. Since that time [I] have received 2 letters from you, dated 3rd January & the other 7th & to my great mortification you had not received the one from me dated January 1st, though you expressed such wish or anxiety to hear from me on the arrival of the next Mail, & knowing that it had sufficient time to reach you, I sincerely hope that you were not disappointed. Your letter dated the 7th Inst. I have just received & in this will endeavor to answer or reply to your enquiries not only contained in the last (but all questions verbal or otherwise). One request in your first letter was to write often. I answer I will. Another is that if I cannot get well to come back to die with you which is the most serious thought ever entered the human breast, more particularly so wicked a man as myself. Oh could I speak of or think of death with the light & honest heart of my dearest Malvina, how pleas[t] the dreams of entering the Kingdom of Heaven. O could I, I would meet you & receive you with open arms & joy at departing from a world of troubles (but be more Cheerful & still hope to enjoy a long & pleasant life). If I cannot get well (though I hope to be) I feel that it would be calculated to agravate rather than alleviate our pain & distress to meet each other, though as you might think differently, and have perfect Controll over my heart, you must advise me according to the dictates of your better judgment & I will be governed accordingly.

The unfortunate fall that I received in Virginia which Caused the procrastination of our union & so seriously injured me, my arm & knee, is nearly quite well. My health is not so good altogether as when I left you, in consequence of warm weather & sudden changes in the Climate. I have had a very bad cold & other inexpressible sufferings. I am very much reduced though I am well convinced that if I am not finally restored, that except an attack of disease that we are all subject to, to survive the one that I am at present afflicted.

Malvina, while I was with you last & in the neighborhood of Stantonsburg (in adding spiritous liquors) enjoyed myself seemingly very well, but such a change since you saw me you would hardly know me (don't be uneasy; I flatter myself better now). The people do live so bad here that I am so tired of the place. To give you some idea, they eat Beef & Rice half cooked for dinner, Tea, Crackers & Stewed apples for supper & then Beef & small Hommony for Breakfast. All the water we get to drink is rain water. In fact, they have nothing good except fresh India fruit such as Cocoa Nut, pine apples, & oranges & them I buy extra & Cannot enjoy them without I could divide them with you, though such a history of living will only grieve you and as 'tis best for me to live lightly, only think it for the best.

In your letter received today you expressed some fears of tiring my patience by writing so often. I cannot think that but a jest or mistake, for you must know that I would be glad to hear from you & read your letters from day to day & then peruse them every night. Believe, me, Malvina, that I live on hope of getting well & hearing from you every mail. It is the only enjoyment for your afflicted lover, hope of hearing from & seeing you. If I only had words to express that I yet have a heart to soothe. I have before me your affectionate letters containing some poetry that I will repeat that in so doing draws tears from my eyes. Oh how magnificently beautiful are the 4 last lines:

Yet in tears and mute though I stood loved,
Thy last words are thrilling me yet,
And my heart would have breathed if it could love
And murmur, oh don't forget.

Malvina, I am so pleased with your prompt compliance with your promise that every minute I flatter myself convalescing. Please continue to write me often & don't entertain an idea of tiring my patience by writing to me, for you do know better. I have today enclosed to you a pamphlet life of Francis Abbot. I want you to inform me whether you received it or not in your next. Please return a tender of my feelings of deepest interest & respects to our sincere friend Miss C. A. Ellis. Be assured, Malvina, that the only Consolation I have is, in my present depressed feelings of distress, nightly dreams & imaginations of again meeting you & at the same time to part no more. I doubt not that I have friends, but no friends console me here & no one to reveal the agonizing distress of your best friend & lover. Such nonsense as most enclosed in this I could write, if I thought worthy of your fine attention, all day. [I] am truly sorry this sheet is full. You are certainly excusable for consenting that I should leave you. It was a mark of excellent judgment & wisdom. I will in my next letter try to inform you more particularly about my situation. If I can get anyways nearly well, I will be with you in 2 days after. If I can't, o what tell me what to do, tell me freely and frankly. I have no room to close this letter in its regular form.

J. D. Rountree

I certainly have wrote a considerable nonsense in this but you can excuse all, as allowances ought to be made. Malvina, please think as little at least as seldom of our misfortunes as possible. In my next [I] will try to do better & hope to feel better & give you more satisfaction.

J. D. Rountree

I was glad to hear from father's family. Should you see Miss Julia A. Bynum, please present my best wishes & respects to her and in confidence say to her I yet hope she will officiate as Bridesmaid at the union of her most particular friends.

Your letter dated the 7th Inst. I did not receive until this morning 17th being 10 days since you wrote. The one dated the 3rd & mailed in Tarborough came to hand 4 days since January 12th.

[Envelope] Miss Malvina E. Gill
Stantonsburg
N. C[a].

[Editor's Notes: Jonathan D. Rountree (July 23, 1819-April 19, 1865) was a son of Lewis Rountree and wife Elizabeth Daniel of Edgecombe (now Wilson) County, North Carolina. He married Malvina Elizabeth Gill, daughter of Andrew E. Gill (born February 18, 1796) and wife Marinda L. Crabtree (married on February 4, 1823). She was born on November

(continued on page 47)

MARCH 28,2006, MEETING

The March meeting of WCGS was held in the Wilson County Library with our president Sue Powell presiding. Members were welcomed as Sue opened the meeting remembering that it was the anniversary of the society which began fifteen years ago with eighteen members at its first meeting.

The minutes were approved as printed in *Trees*. There was no treasurer's report as Henry Powell, our treasurer, was in the hospital. Sue provided various handouts including back issues of *Trees*, group sheets, ancestor charts and information on how to get started in family research for those who have not yet begun.

It was noted that the date on the cover of *Trees Index* has a copy error and should read 2005.

Work on Founding Families continues. The largest family, Barnes, is the last one and requires considerable time to organize and accurately trace before its entries are completed.

Work shop announcements were made and will be printed in this issue. Tim Rackley has offered to do a Saturday program. He has a long drive to and from his home, so that would be a much better time for him, but there was not enough response from the group to set up a day engagement.

Members were asked to bring articles from their family's heritage for this evening, and a number of us responded by bringing in boxes of possessions from their past. As always, it was interesting to view, and hopefully it inspired others to gather "precious" memorabilia before it is too late!!!

Prizes were to be given for the most interesting and after a vote count first was awarded to Lee Spurlin, second to Sylvia Lamm and third to Carol Forbes. Refreshments, some of which were reminders of the past, were served and enjoyed.

Frances W. Roberson

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The room is large, attractive, and well arranged. The collection of books and microfilm contained is very extensive, and computers are available to search the internet. The library maintains subscriptions to Ancestry.com and Heritage Quest which you can access there. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM

The Bass Family of Black Creek, North Carolina: Ten Generations of the Bass Family in the New World, 4th Edition, by J. A. Bass, Jr.

(J. D. Rountree Letter, continued from page 46)

10, 1825, and died on December 1, 1888. She had a brother Hartwell Franklin Gill (born on February 4, 1827), and a sister Mary Ann Gill (born on November 20, 1823).

In 1860, J. D. Rountree, age 40, merchant, and Melvina, age 33, lived in the Town of Wilson. Mary, age 11; Margaret, age 9; Isadore, age 7; Louisa, age 5; and Teresa, age 3; lived with them.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Family Research Society of Northeastern NC, Inc. will hold a genealogical fair on May 6, 2006, at the Kermit E. White Graduate Center on the Elizabeth City State University campus in Elizabeth City, N. C. Registration begins at 8:00 a. m.

Paul Drake will discuss "Brick Walls and What to Do about Them."

Cost is $35. Contact them for registration information at PO Box 1425, Elizabeth City, NC 27906-1425 or www.rootsweb.com/~ncfrsnnc/.

• Johnston County Genealogical and Historical Society will be hosting their Annual Meeting and Workshop Saturday, June 3, 2006, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Public Library of Johnston County and Smithfield, 305 E. Market St., Smithfield, N. C.

The speakers will be Ray King and Chris Meekins who will discuss the Civil War period: researching Civil War soldiers and ancestors, and documents and records at the Johnston County Heritage Center and N. C. State Archives.

The cost to attend is $20 for a nonmember, $15 for a member. Contact them for registration information at PO Box 2373, Smithfield NC 27577.

• *A Johnny Reb Band from Salem: The Pride of Tarheelia,* by Harry H. Hall, has been published by the N. C. Office of Archives and History. This book examines the role of musicians who "raised the spirits of fellow soldiers and brought hope to the Confederate cause."

The first section "discusses Moravian musical traditions during the eighteenth and the first half of the nineteenth centuries. The second part traces the band's Confederate service for a little more than three years."

This 288 page illustrated book ($15.00 plus tax and shipping) can be ordered from the Historical Publications Section (N), Office of Archives and History, 4622 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-4622, or use the section's secure online store at http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications/.

(Jesse Farmer, continued from page 44)

9. Jesse Wilson "Wilse" Farmer was born on April 30, 1865, and died on April 26, 1948, being buried in the family graveyard on the following day.

In 1870, Hilliard Farmer, age 25, mulatto, farm laborer; and his wife Ann, age 24; lived in Gardners Township. Their children Louisa, age 6; Henrietta, age 5; and Julia, age 1 month; lived with them.

In 1880, Hilliard Farmer, age 34, black, farm laborer; and his wife Arann, age 33; lived in Toisnot Township. Their children Louiza, age 16, farm laborer; Henrietta, age 15, farm laborer; Julian, age 9; Tiny, age 6; Roxie, age 5; Willie, age 3; Henry, age 1; and grandson Eddie, age 11 months; lived with them.

Jerry Farmer married Kate Suggs, and they received their Certificate of Marriage on August 22, 1866. In 1870, Jerry Farmer, age 26, black, and Kate, age 26, both farm laborers, lived in Gardners Township.

In 1880, Jerry Farmer, age 37, farm laborer, lived alone in Gardners Township.

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 802
Wilson, NC 27894
252-243-1660
www.wcgs.org

James Marshburn
Isaac Farmer
Raleigh Reason
J. D. Rountree

April 2006

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Books

___ They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States $15.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900. $40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00
(tax included) **NEW**

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2 $5.00
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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

May 2006 Volume 15 Number 5

President's Message

Shortly after WCGS was organized, we began several activities to provide assistance to researchers with Wilson County roots.

Members of WCGS have been available to provide assistance to family history researchers in the Local History and Genealogy Room at the Wilson County Public Library. Joan Howell Waddell was the first, still is "on duty" on Tuesday afternoons, and coordinates the other volunteers. At present, Carroll Arthur can also be found there on Monday afternoons and Monk Moore on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Ron Horton and Carol Forbes do not visit the library on a regular schedule; however, they have been very willing to provide assistance when they are there. When needed, they have served as backup for one of the regular volunteers.

These volunteers enjoy assisting other researchers. They question the researchers to learn what they already know and give them advice and directions to further their research. They listen to the problem areas already encountered and provide guidance towards ways that the answers might be found. Using the resources available in the Local History and Genealogy room, the volunteers lead the researchers to materials that might have additional information.

Our volunteers have found the researchers' excitement as they find the answers to their problems more than compensate them for their time and look forward to their next time "on duty."

Won't you consider joining their ranks?

Sue Powell

May 30TH MEETING

7:00 PM, Wilson County Public Library

Local History and Genealogy Room.

We have been given special permission to meet in the Genealogy Room. Please join us to learn more about the resources available there.

Deborah Webb, Reference Librarian, will give us an overview of the resources that are available at the library. Then the volunteers who provide assistance in the Genealogy Room will explain different aspects of the resources.

Joan Howell Waddell, coordinator of volunteers, will describe the wealth of records included in the vertical files. Carroll Arthur will tell us how to utilize the card catalog to lead us to helpful books and other records. Monk Moore will explain the internet resource "Heritage Quest" where one can search for census records, books, and PERSI, the directory of periodicals (such as *Trees.* Ron Horton will describe the internet resource "Ancestry.com," the data base of personal and public genealogical records.

After their overviews, they will answer questions that we have and demonstrate the use of the resources to those who wish to learn more or to research with their guidance. Bring your research problems for ideas to solve them.

Jerry Stancil will be with us also to discuss efforts that we can undertake to preserve cemeteries that are in danger.

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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON

Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Few people remember that Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., father of the greatly admired and long-tenured Christopher of our North Carolina Department of Archives, and husband-to-be of Ethel Taylor of Wake Forest who was for many years during her long widowhood the Librarian of Wake Forest College; taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them. From the few letters that have survived, I have transcribed those portions that should be of interest to the present reader of this column. [Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We will continue this series of letters in future issues of *Trees.*]

Atlantic Coast Line Hotel
Weldon, N. C.
Sept. 7, 1898

Dear Mother:---Here I am, with nothing to do but wait the next train to Wilson. I expected to reach there last night but could not make connection. ... (I'll stop now and finish after reaching Wilson.)

Wilson's.---I reached here at 2 p. m. Supt. Mangum is an able man, about 35, with a wife and one child. This afternoon we had a teacher's meeting. There are ten teachers in the school. They seem a very nice set—all good faces, and about half of them unusually intelligent. Now how shall I fall in

(Continued on page 50)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 49)

love? With the buxom young teacher of freckled face, but fine forehead and flashing eye; or the slim beauty, who already invites me to her house to play tennis; or with the truly charming widow, dressed in white ducking? Mrs. Mangum already predicts the last. My position will almost certainly be far more satisfactory than that of last session. My grade will number only 25, and the Supt will attend to almost all the discipline. The latter gentleman is an earnest Christian (Methodist Sunday School Supt.), an athlete of considerable reputation, and he and his wife musicians.

The town, up to five years ago, was a village of 2000 inhabitants. A tobacco trade suddenly sprang up and now is the second tobacco market in the State, and possibly this season will take the lead. The population is jumping upward (already over 6000), every house is occupied, and I have experienced difficulty in getting a room. Workmen are pushed to their utmost, and small jobs are not touched for "love nor money."

Tell Father to send Temple [younger and somewhat irresponsible brother] on immediately. He can help on his expenses as he feels able. If he can't help at all, alright. If I take Temple, probably he can send Wilson off. It would be a great thing for Will to go to Mr. Dean's. Ask him to send me $5.00 at once. I'll return it out of my first month's salary; or he can consider it that much advanced on Temple's expenses. If, however, he's hard pushed I'll stand for Temp entirely and return the money, too. I can get all the outside tutoring I can do, so Mr. Mangum informs me, and thus add considerably to my income.

If need be Temp and I could "bach" it, and live for, say $10.00 a month instead of paying some $25 to $30 board.

This is already too much letter, so I'll stop. Don't wait to send Temp. If Nip [brother F. Newhill Crittenden] has not shipped my cycle, tell him please not to wait. My trunks were O. K. and cost me only 70¢ for excess weight. I had to lie over in Weldon, though, and pay $1.50 for hotel fare.

Lovingly
Your Boy.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

***The Wilson Times*, January 18, 1917**

Reprint from *Mt. Olive Tribune*

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

THE WILSON WAY

Talk about community spirit that means something, here it is:

"Wilson, N. C., Jan 5.—A new enterprise that will give employment to many will soon be moved from New Bern to this city—the Scott Register Company. Wilson has offered on it at a nominal figure, free license for one year and will invest $10,000 in stock in the enterprise."

It is said that, once upon a time, the Coast Line desired to locate its machine shops at Wilson, but, because the parties who owned the land where they desired to place the shops had none of the community spirit about them and asked exorbitant prices for their holdings, the company's representatives moved on to Rocky Mount, where a more hospitable spirit awaited them; and so, one of the greatest opportunities, perhaps, that ever knocked at Wilson's door was lost to it forever.

But Wilson has learned better now—has a community spirit worth while; has as its leaders men who see the wisdom of promoting their own interests by first promoting those of the community at large.

The Wilson ways is worthy of emulation.—Mt. Olive Tribune.

DEED FROM JAMES PEELE TO WILLIS PEELE

Contributed by Mary R. Mason

This indenture made this fourteenth Day of February in the year Eighteen Hundred and Sixteen Between Willis Peele of the County of Wayne and State of North Carolina of the one part and James Peele of the other part Witnesseth that I the S^{d}. James Peele have Bargined and Sold and Delivered to Willis Peele a Certain Tract or parcil of Land Lying and Being in the County of Wayne on the North East Side of Bare Creek for and consideration of two hundred dollars beginning at a pine Near the s^{d}. Creek formerly a Corner Between Willis Peele and David Peele then Near a Souwest Course to the run of the Creek to a Black Gum a Corner agreed on by James (and?) Willis Peele then with agreed Line through the plantation up to a post oak on a Branch a Corner in or Near Willis Peele Line to the first station Containing Twenty acres Be it the same More or less and I the S^{d}. James Peele for Myself my heirs or assigns Do and Will Warrant and Defend the Right of S^{d}. Land to Willis Peele his heirs and assigns for Ever in Witness I have hereunto Set My hand and Seal the Day and Year above written

James Peelle Seal

Witnessed
Joab Newsom
Willis Peele Jnr.

Wayne County Feb. Term 1818

Then was the within deed of sale from James Peele duly acknowleged in open Court and ordered that the same be Registered

Attest. P. Hooks Clk.

Recorded 6th March 1818 in the Registers office of Wayne County in Liber K No. 611

H. Hooks Regris.

James Peele (11 Nov. 1794—Feb. 1848) was the son of David Peele (1754—25 Apr. 1807) and Priscilla Fletcher (3 Oct. 1771—c. 1818).

David and Willis (17 Apr. 1763—26 Sept. 1833) were sons of Robert Peele (15 Sept. 1730—c. 1808) and Margaret Jossey (12 June 1732—21 Aug. 1796).

Witness Joab Newsom (8 Dec. 1770—1828) was the son of William Newsom (1746—1820) and Mary Jordan (15 Dec. 1750—c. 1822). Joab was married first to Elizabeth Barnes, daughter of Simon Barnes, and after her death (c. 1815) he married Elizabeth Best. Following this second marriage, Joab moved from the northern part of Wayne Co. to the Hood Swamp/Bear Creek area of Wayne.

Mary R. Mason

DEED FROM WILLIAM H. BARDIN TO ROBERT (B.) PEEL

Contributed by Mary R. Mason

This indenture made and entered into this the third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five Between William H. Bardin of the County of Wilson and the state of North Carolina of the first part and Robert Peel of the county of Wayne and state aforesaid of the other part Witnessith that I the said William H. Bardin for and in consideration of the sum of fifteen hundred Dollars to me in hand paid by the said Robert Peel the receipt and payment of which is hereby acknowledged and myself contented and paid have granted bargained sold delivere and by these present doth hereby grant bargain sell and deliver unto the said Robert Peel his heirs and assigns forever a certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the county of Wayne and the state aforesaid on the North side of Nahunta Swamp and bounded as follows (to wit) Bounded on the East by William Hooks and James R. Barnes on the North by James R. Barnes on the West by Robert Copeland on the South by Nahunta Swamp containing two hundred and fifty acres more or less It being a tract devised to me by the last will and testament of my father and known as the Nahunta Tract To have and to hold all the aforesaid lands and premisses together with all the singular appurtenances therewith belonging an in anywise appurtances and I the said William H. Bardin do for myself my heirs executors administraters assign warrant and forever defend the right and title of the aforesaid lands and premises to him the said Robert Peel his heirs executors administrations and assigns forever free and clear from the lawful claim or claims of any and all persons whatsoever.

In testimony where of I the said William H. Bardin have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and date above written

Signed sealed and Delivered in presents of
Wm. Hooks

William H. Bardin

Wayne County February 22nd 1859

Then was the forgoing deed of sale from William H. Bardin to Robert Peele duly proved before me by the oath of Wm. Hooks a subscribing witness thereto and let it be registered.

Benj. Aycock Clerk

Recorded in the Registers office of Wayne County the 15th day of April 1859 in Liber A. A. No. 26 page 228.

J. K. Green Regs.

William H. Bardin was the son of Arthur Bardin and his second wife. (His half sister was my third great grandmother Nancy Bardin Dew.) William died unmarried at the age of 20 or 21 leaving his property to his sisters and brothers. I believe he was only 17 or 18 when he deeded the Nahunta tract to Robert Peel, my great great grandfather.

William Hooks was also my great great grandfather and married William H. Bardin's niece Peninah Dew.

Benjamin Aycock was married to Serena Hooks, sister of William Hooks.

I have lived on the "Nahunta Tract" since 1964. In a rather convoluted way, the property has been in the family since it was granted to Simon Bardin in 1762.

Robert B. Peel was the son of Willis Peelle and Mary Stanton Davis. Robert, his wife Sarah, and three of their sons are buried on the farm near my house.

Mary R. Mason

THADDEUS E. DAVIS
Daily Press, December 9, 2005
Alma Sparkman

More than 100 years later, the late Smithfield [Virginia] Chief of Police Thaddeua E. Davis will be honored at last. Next May, Davis' name will be engraved on the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D. C. …

One night in May 1902, Chief Davis—in some news articles also referred to as Town Marshall or First Sergeant—had just arrested a man for murder in Isle of Wight County and was walking him to the jail when his gun fell from his pocket and discharged.

The round struck Davis in the hip. He was taken by steamboat to St. Vincent's Hospital in Norfolk, where the North Carolina native died two days later.

Davis was 39. He left a wife and five children between the ages of 1 and 7.

His descendants remember sketchy bits and pieces of tales about his death.

The late chief's 81-year-old grandson, William Raymond Davis, Jr., … remembers stories about his grandfather holding a prisoner at the dock on the Pagan River, awaiting a ferry transport to the Norfolk jail when the shot rang out.

"I've heard he lost a lot of blood," he said.

Davis' great-granddaughter Dulce Eaves … knows of tales from her great-aunt about a man who was strict, wanting to instill responsibility and independence into his children.

…Davis' name along with others will be engraved during National Police Week in May 2006.

[Editor's note: Dulce R. Eaves was pictured in the *Daily Press* article with a photograph of Thaddeus Davis.

Alma Sparkman wrote after receiving the April issue of *Trees.*

"I was so interested in reading the article about Jesse Farmer and finding my great-great grandmother Elizabeth Taylor (p. 42 in April *Trees*).

She was the daughter of Stephen Taylor. Her first marriage was to Abraham T. Sharpe, son of Abraham Sharpe.

Her son W. David married Amanda Ethridge (my great grandparents).

Their daughter Nannie Jane Sharpe was my grandmother, who married Thaddeus Eugene Davis. He will be honored this month in Washington at the Police Officers Memorial.

After Abraham T. Sharpe died Elizabeth married Hartwell Williford. Thaddeus E. was born in Pitt County to Eugene Monroe Davis and is buried in Suffolk, Virginia. Thaddeus' son W. Raymond Davis is my father (deceased)."

In 1870 and 1880, the family of Eugene Davis lived in Pitt County. Other information from Ms. Sparkman indicated that Thaddeus Eugene Davis was born December 19, 1864, and died May 16, 1902. His father Eugene M. Davis was born August 7, 1833, in Fluvana, Virginia, and died October 3, 1907, in Falkland, North Carolina. Martha Willoughby Davis was born July 5, 1836.

David Sharp married Amanda Ethridge on January 23, 1867, in Wilson County. In 1880, (Willie) David Sharpe, age 44, school teacher; and his wife Amanda, age 32; lived in Gardners Township, Wilson County. Their children Martha A., age 11; N. A. (Nancy J.), age 9; Elizabeth, age 6; Jesse, age 4; and Sallie E., age 3; lived with them.

David Sharp was the son of Abraham T. and Elizabeth Taylor Sharpe, who were married June 24, 1835, in Edgecombe County. Benjamin Sharp was the bondsman. Abraham died December 16, 1843. Elizabeth, born March 15, 1813, died December 7, 1888, was the daughter of Stephen and Nancy Curle Taylor.

Amanda Elizabeth Etheridge Sharpe was the daughter of Willoughby and Nancy Robbins Etheridge, who were married on February 3, 1840, in Edgecombe County. In 1860, Willeby Etheridge, age 36, farmer; and his wife Nancy, age 39; lived in Joyners and Gardners District. Living with them were Nathan, age 18; Elizabeth, age 16; Rich'd, age 15; Matilda, age 12; Eveline, age 8; Robt., age 7; Mary, age 5; and James, age 3. Amanda Elizabeth Etheridge was called Amanda in estates records and the marriage record. She was called Elizabeth in the 1860 Census record.]

Queries: Alma Sparkman would like to know:

When did Martha Willoughby Davis die (probably between 1870 and 1880) and where was she buried?

Where was Martha's father, William Jones Willoughby, who died November 10, 1849, buried?

When did Sarah Willoughby, Martha's mother, die and where was she buried?

When did W. David Sharp die and where is he buried?

When did Amanda Elizabeth Sharp die and where is she buried?

EFFIE LEE TAYLOR.
Zion's Landmark, November 15, 1891
Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Mr. P. D. Gold, Dear Sir:--You will please publish the death of my little niece, Effie Lee Taylor, daughter [of] George W. and Cora Lee Taylor, who was born in Green county, N. C. November 8th, 1890 and died, May 28th, 1891, age 6 months and 20 days. It was a large child to its age, and was healthy as far as we know. Sister was in bad health and has been for some time. So Sunday before Effie died Thursday Ma came and carried her home with her to keep till sister got better. Monday morning she seemed to be sore on one side, that evening she discovered that she was sick. She grew worse till Thursday, and she seemed to be better that morning, but alas she was not any better. She died that evening about four o'clock. Effie was a lovely little girl, and we feel our loss to be great, but the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, while sorrow calls tears from our eyes to know she will be seen on earth no more. Gone from a world of troubles, reached a fair shore. Dear one, we miss thee sadly, but we should weep no more, for we know the tired spirit sighed and longed for rest. Till God in his kind mercy sheltered thee on his breast.

Thou art gone from us dear Effie,
To reign with angels above;
To rest forever with Jesus,
And live in his precious love.

Addie. Smith.

STEPHEN TAYLOR
Hugh Buckner Johnston

Stephen Taylor, son of Teagle and Celia (Little) Taylor of the Upper Town Creek area, married Nancy Curle. He made his will in Edgecombe County on March 20, 1848, and it was probated in May Court, 1848: (1) wife Nancy, use of slaves David, Esther, and her youngest children Dempsey and Calvin; use of the bay horse, 2 cows with calves, 2 sows with pigs, one year's provisions, household and kitchen furniture, and the land south of Town Creek; (2) Sarah Tison (sic), one-seventh from the ultimate sale of the slaves above, as well as from the sale of the rest of the property after the deduction of the cash bequests; (3) Elizabeth Sharpe, ditto; (4) Nancy Vivret, ditto; (5) Milbry Wiggins, ditto; (6) Patsy Vivret, ditto; (7) Egbert Taylor, ditto, plus the sorrel horse in his possession; (8) Willie Gray Taylor, one-seventh, feather bed and furniture, and $30 instead of a horse; (9) John Sharp's children Gray, David, and Margaret Sharpe, $300 from the sale of their mother's lifetime share; (10) son Jesse Taylor, $200 in cash from the sale of the other property, with the remainder of the money divided into seven parts; (11) son-in-law and executor Washington Tison; (12) son-in-law and executor James Wiggins; and (13) witnesses: John G. Williams and William V. Batts. (Will Book F, p.391; C.R. 037.811.29)

Children of Stephen and Nancy (Curle) Taylor:

1. Elizabeth Taylor (March 15, 1813-December 7, 1888) married [in Edgecombe County] on June 24, 1835, Abraham Tyson Sharpe, son of Abraham Sharpe. [Benjamin Sharpe was bondsman.] She died testate in Wilson County. On November 4, 1848, she had married 2nd Hartwell Williford (December 14, 1789-June 17, 1875). [James G. Williford was bondsman.]

Children of Abraham Tyson Sharpe and Elizabeth (Taylor) Sharpe

a. William David "Davie" Sharpe was born in 1836 and married Emily Sharpe on March 8, 1855 [in Edgecombe County].
b. Queen Esther Sharpe was born in 1838, [married William Williford on January 7, 1858, in Wilson County.]
c. Moses Abraham Sharpe was born in 1840.
d. Rhoda Anne Elizabeth Sharpe was born on December 28, 1844, in [what became in 1855] Wilson County, and died on January 25, 1933, in Richmond, Virginia. On October [27], 1860, she married Van Buren Winbourn [at the home of Harwell Williford in Wilson County]. He was born on May 1, 1838, and died on August 6, 1889, in Wilson. (A descendant in 1980 was R. G. Learnard, 607 Hamilton Avenue, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834.

Children of Hartwell and Elizabeth (Taylor Sharpe) Williford

a. Winnifred H. Williford (1849-1876) married Lemuel [H.] Hardison [on September 29, 1874, at Toisnot. He was then 24 and she was 22. G. W. Williford, Burt Williford, and E. B. Farmer were witnesses.]
b. George Washington Williford was born February 29, 1852, and died March 20, 1930. On January 9, 1873, he married Nancy Thomas Phelps. [He was then 21, and she was 17.]
c. Della Jane Williford was born in 1856 and married Edwin Barnes Farmer on December 14, 1871 [at the home of H. Williford. He was the son of Jesse and Polly Farmer.]

2. Nancy Taylor married ____ Viverett.
3. Martha "Patsey" Taylor married James Viverett in Nash County on May 20, 1841.
4. Milberry "Milley" Taylor was born in 1819 and married James Wiggins on December 6, 1838.
5. Margaret Taylor married [in Edgecombe County] on January 6, 1829, John Sharpe who was dead by 1848. (Deed Book 25, p.164)
   a. David Sharpe
   b. Gray B. Sharpe
   c. Margaret Sharpe married John B. Batts.
6. Sarah Ann Taylor married George Washington Tyson of Pitt County.
7. Egbert H. Taylor married on December 13, 1845, Evelina Pender of Edgecombe County.
8. Willie Gray Taylor was born in 1827. On September 26, 1844, he married Spicy Felton in Edgecombe County.
9. Jesse Taylor married Penninah Hedgepeth on January 4, 1831 [in Edgecombe County. Stephen Taylor was bondsman]

[Editor's note: Information above included with [ ] was added by your editor. It was taken from the abstracted marriage records of Edgecombe and Wilson counties.

In 1860, Hartwell Williford, age 70, farmer; and his wife Elizabeth, age 45; lived in Joyners and Gardners Township in Wilson County. Living with them were Winiford H., age 10; George W., age 8; and Dellah J., age 3.

In 1860, David Sharp, age 28, farmer; and his wife Emily, age 25; lived five households from Hartwell and Elizabeth Williford. Living with David and Emily were John T., age 3; Vetiana, age 12; and Elizabeth J., age 8.

In 1870, Hartwell Williford, age 81, farmer; and his wife Elizabeth, age 54; lived in Joyners Township. Living with them were Winniford, age 19; Geo. W., age 17; and Dell J., age 14.

In 1880, Elizabeth Williford, age 69, lived in the Toisnot Township household of her son-in-law W. T. Williford, age 45, farmer; and his wife Q. Easter, age 40. The children of W. T. and Q. Easter, Calvin C., age 20, farm laborer; Kate L., age 14; Willie T., age 10; Thaddeus, age 6; Roxie, age 4; and W. T.'s brother James C., age 21, farm laborer; lived with them.

The will of Elizabeth Williford written June 14, 1887, probated January 14, 1889, in Wilson County left to her son George W. Williford her beds and steads, all household and kitchen furniture, and $100. To her daughter I. E. (?) Williford, $50. She instructed that after paying those bequests, the remainder of her estate was to be equally divided between and among George W. Williford, Rhody A. Winborn, D. W. Sharpe, Ella Winstead, and James L. Farmer. She named her son George W. Williford as executor. Jas. W. Taylor and A. R. Batts were witnesses. In an undated codicil, she left to D. W. Thorpe one bed, one quilt, and one knit counterpane.]

JOHN DEW, ESQ.
Hugh B. Johnston files

John Dew, Esq., son of Arthur Dew and wife Martha Taylor, was born in 1764 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina, and died there on February 22, 1811. In 1784 he married Sarah "Sally" Thomas, daughter of the Reverend Jonathan Thomas, Sr., and wife Mary Hilliard. She was born in 1765 and died on June 1, 1806. On May 29, 1802, she was called daughter and John Dew was named son-in-law and executor in the will of Mary Thomas of Edgecombe County.[1]

On August 11, 1786, Governor Richard Caswell granted Dempsey Barnes land on both sides of Little Swamp in Nash County adjoining Jesse Blackwell, John Dew, Arthur Dew, and Henry Flowers.[2] In the Edgecombe County Census of 1790, John Dew was listed with himself, three males under sixteen, two females, and six slaves.[3] On February 10, 1791, the Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions named him a Patroller in his district.[4] On July 27, 1793, Young Cotton sold John Dew for $50 a tract of 150 acres on "one of the southern Branches of Town Creek called the little swamp" adjoining William Sheffield, Viverett, and Richard Winstead; witnessed by George Blackburn and Benjamin Farmer.[5] On August 10, 1793, Dempsey Barnes of Edgecombe County sold Dempsey Dawson of Nash County land north of Little Swamp (a branch of Toisnot Swamp) adjoining John Dew, Arthur Dew, and Henry Flowers.[6]

John Dew served on Juries in Edgecombe County on September 3, 1795, and March 3, 1796.[7] On March 18, 1796, Hickman (H) and Nelly (N) Dixon sold John Dew for £250 current North Carolina money 193 acres north of Hominy Swamp adjoining Godwin; and 160 acres bounded by Farmer and said Dixon, the south prong of Lewis's Branch, Dempsey Barnes, and John Dew (the second from a former grant to Nicholas Dixon, "it being where Hickman Dixon now lives," and the first was a grant to Moses Coleman on February 17, 1761); witnessed by Arthur Dew, William (W) Ellis, and William Blackburn.[8] In the Edgecombe County Census of 1800 John Dew had three males under ten, two males 10-16, himself 26-45, four females under ten, one female 10-16, wife 26-45, and seventeen slaves.[9]

On January 17, 1801, John Dew was an heir and the executer of the will of Mary Dew of Edgecombe County.[10] On April 28, 1801, Sheriff Howell Ellen sold William Arrington for £12.0.3 in specie land on the County Line adjoining John Dew, Dempsey Barnes, Blackwell, and John Morriss, to satisfy a judgment brought against Henry Viverett.[11] On February 6, 1802, William (x) and Kesia (x) Hickman sold John Dew for £100 current North Carolina money one-eighth of the land of "our father Thomas Dixon deceased" north of Tosnot Swamp; witnessed by William Dew, Jonathan (J) Dew, and Noah Hickman.[12] On February 25, 1802, John Dew became a Bench Justice of the Edgecombe County Court.[13] On June 30, 1802, Dempsey (x) Barnes, executor *of* John Morriss of Edgecombe County, sold John Dew of the same place for £57 North Carolina money 295 acres in Nash County on both sides of Hominy Swamp, bounded by the County Line, John Morris, Jr., Sherrod Philips, Lemuel Wright, Joseph Philips, and Chester Colson; witnessed by William White and Robert Coleman.[14]

On December 29, 1802, John Dew, Arthur Dew, William Dew, Benjamin Farmer, Barnes Simms, and Jesse Barnes of Edgecombe County deeded one acre "on the publick Road from Tarborough to Smithfield for the utility and good will that we have toward religious worship and the conveniency of the neighbourhood and the publick at Large as fare as religious worship extend, particular the Baptist Sasiaty that they should have there meeting at there appointed times without being interrupted by any other Sasiaty but all other times that any other travelling preaching of any other Sasiaty or other Preachers in the neighbourhood may preach at any other time;" witnessed by Dempsey (x) Barnes, Senr.[15]

On February 11, 1803, John Dew of Edgecombe County sold Joseph Barnes for $333.33 an eighth-interest in the late Thomas Dixon's land on the north side of Tosnot Swamp; witnessed by John Barnes and Charles Coleman.[16] On February 7, 1805, James (x) Hearn sold John Dew for $430 in silver dollars 710 acres north of a prong of Town Creek (two tracts "given to Lancelot Viverett by His Father Thomas Viverett ... Being the Land the s^{d}. Hearn now lives on part of"); witnessed by Jesse Farmer and Henry Haywood.[17] On October 4, 1805, John Dew and Charles Coleman were witnesses of the will of William Bond Whitehead.[18] On January 17, 1807, Thomas and Elizabeth (x) Mathews of Edgecombe County leased to John Dew for £100 current money 212 acres north of Tosneott Swamp, it "being the whole of which fell to her viz my wife at the manner plantation as her dower cut out of the home tract;" witnessed by William Dew and Jesse Farmer.[19]

In the Edgecombe County Census of 1810, John Dew had one male 10-16, three males 16-26, himself over forty-five, three females under ten, three females 10-16, one female 16-26, and twenty-nine slaves.[20] On September 17, 1810, John Crowell mortgaged to Jesse Barnes of Edgecombe County land south of Little Swamp adjoining John Dew; witnessed by Joseph Barnes, Isaac Horn, German Mann, and J. Harrison.[21] On November 11, 1810, Daniel Mann sold Jerman Mann a tract adjoining John Dew, Dempsey Barnes, Blackwell, John Morriss, the road, and the County Line.[22] On September 9, 1811, the Edgecombe County Court recorded that the Administrators of the estate of the late John Dew were Arthur Dew and Jesse Farmer.[23]

On June 3, 1812, John Crowell sold Levi S. Underwood some land south of Little Swamp adjoining John Dew, in order to settle the mortgage mentioned above.[24] On November 4, 1812, Levi Underwood sold Samuel L. and John L. Lamkin the preceding tract adjoining John Dew; witnessed by John and Nancy Underwood.[25] On December 26, 1812, Ichabod Thomas, Charles Coleman, and Jesse Barnes divided the thirty-two slaves of the late John Dew, valued at $7,364, into twelve shares averaging $613.66⅔ each: (1) Obedience Dew, two worth $525; (2) Nancy Dew, three worth $645; (3) Treacy Dew, two worth $575; (4) Duncan Dew, three worth $635; (5) John Dew, two worth $550; (6) Larry Dew, three worth $550; (7) Martha Dew, three worth $604; (8) Jonathan Dew, two worth $530; (9) John Barnes, three worth $850; (10) Sally Dew, three worth $575; (11) David Dew, three worth $650; and (12) Elizabeth Dew, three

(Continued on Page 55)

(John Dew, continued from page 54)
worth $675.[26]

On October 12, 1814, William Colvin, Alexander Williams, and John McNeill divided 631 acres on the Cape Fear River in Cumberland County adjoining McKeithan into twelve shares of 52 7/12 acres each but of varying values: (1) Larry Dew, $92.29; (2) Wiley and Martha Rountree, $105.29; (3) John Dew, $146.41; (4) Sally Dew, $99.80; (5) Obedience Dew, $52.50; (6) Elizabeth Dew, $78.79; (7) Nancy Dew, $148.75; (8) David Dew, $157.56; (9) Jonathan Dew, $105; (10) John and Polly Barnes, $144.37½; (11) Duncan Dew, $105; and (12) William and Trecey Ellis, $131.25.[27]

On March 10, 1815, Commissioners Jethro Harrison, William Horn, and Samuel Winstead (with the help of Surveyor J. Farmer and Chain Bearers James Hunter and Braswell Farmer) met and divided the land owned by the late John Dew in Nash County, 322 acres on both sides of Homony Swamp "and on the road which divides Nash from Edgecombe County", into twelve shares of 26-5/6 acres each but of varying values: (1) Jonathan Dew, $33.54; (2) Larry Dew, $33.54; (3) Treasey Dew, $33.54; (4) Sally Dew, $33.54; (5) Duncan Dew, $26.83; (6) Betsey Dew, $26.83; (7) John Dew, $20.12; (8) David Dew, $13.41; (9) Nancy Dew, $13.41; (10) Patsey Rountree, $13.41; (11) Polly Barnes, $13.41; and (12) Beedy Dew, $23.47.[28]

On October 30, 1815, as ordered by the Edgecombe County Court in August, Commissioners Charles Coleman, Willie Coleman, and John Coleman (with the aid of County Surveyor William Wilkins) divided 918½ acres, the real estate of the late Arthur Dew, into six shares: (1) the heirs of Polly Barnes, 128½ acres worth $514, Tosneot Swamp at the mouth of White's Branch; (2) William Dew, 107 acres worth $695, on Tosneot Swamp; (3) Elizabeth Farmer, 86 acres on Tosneot Swamp, worth $430; (4) the heirs of John Dew, 193 acres "on the publick road" worth $386; (5) Martha Sims, 138 acres on the road, worth $414; and (6) Arthur Dew, 266 acres on the road, worth $399.[29]

On November 23, 1815, as ordered by the Edgecombe County Court in September, Commissioners William White, John Horn, and Garret Knight (with the aid of County Surveyor William Wilkins) divided 607¾ acres of land east of Homony Swamp and 88 acres north of White's Swamp, it being the property of the late John Dew, into twelve shares: (1) Treasea Ellis, 52 acres worth $208, on Homony Swamp; (2) David Dew, 60 acres on the Swamp, worth $200; (3) Obedience Dew, 56 acres on the Swamp, worth $112; (4) Martha Rountree, 56¾ acres on the Swamp, worth $100; (5) Elizabeth Dew, 55½ acres on the Swamp, worth $83; (6) Nancy Dew, 56½ acres worth $113; (7) Polly Barnes, 78 acres worth $97; (8) John Dew, 53½ acres worth $80; (9) Duncan Dew, 45½ acres worth $79; (10) Larry Dew, 44½ acres worth $122; (11) Sally Dew, 49½ acres on "the public Road," worth $74; and (12) Jonathan Dew, 88 acres on White's Swamp, worth $132.[30]

In October, 1822, Commissioners William Wilkins, John Mercer, Micajah Pettaway, and Elisha Woodard (with the aid of County Surveyor James B. Tartt), divided the William Dew estate into four parts, of which Lot No. 1 went to the heirs of the late John Dew: (1) 145 acres the "Mansion House tract" on Tosnott Swamp, worth $1,450; (2) 325 acres the "Piney tract," worth $650; (3) 58½ acres the "Rogers tract," worth $114; and (4) 113 acres the "Amason tract" on White Oak Swamp, up Wiggins's Branch, and along the road, worth $226.[31]

On February 28, 1823, Benjamin (x) and Elizabeth Farmer of Edgecombe County deeded to the heirs of the late John Dew (Mary Barnes, Jonathan Dew, John Dew, Larry Dew, David Dew, Teresea Ellis, Duncan Dew, Elizabeth Farmer, Patsey Rountree, Sally Carpenter, Nancy Wiggins, and Beedy Wilkinson) for $430 their interest in 86 acres north of Tossnot Swamp (Lot No. 3 in the division of the lands of our father Arthur Dew); witnessed by Isaac F. Wood and Lewis Ellis.[32] On August 1, 1823, Jonathan Dew of Nash County, Mary (x) Barnes, Larry Dew, and David Dew of Edgecombe County sold Moses Farmer of Edgecombe County for $600 their interest in two tracts north of Toisnot Swamp (their inheritance from William Dew): (1) the Mansion House Tract of 145 acres worth $1,450, and (2) the Piny Tract of 325 acres worth $650; witnessed by Edwin Barnes, Arthur Dew Barnes, and Isaac F. Wood.[33] On November 7, 1829, Obedience Dew, wife of Benjamin Wilkinson, Martha Dew, wife of Willie Rountree, Elizabeth Dew, wife of Moses Farmer, and Nancy Dew sold John Harper of Nash County for $100 a tract of 224¾ on Hominy Swamp adjoining David Dew, it being their inheritance from the late John Dew; witnessed by A. D. Barnes, James Barnes, and William Mumford.[34]

Children of John and Sally (Thomas) Dew:

1. Mary Dew was born on August 11, 1785.
2. Jonathan Dew was born on June 21, 1787.
3. John Dew, Jr., was born on April 24, 1788.
4. Larry Dew was born on April 24, 1790.
5. David Dew was born on July 10, 1791.
6. Theresa Dew was born on August 18, 1793.
7. Duncan Dew was born on August 28, 1794.
8. Elizabeth Dew was born on April 8, 1796.
9. Martha Dew was born on March 26, 1798.
10. Sarah Dew was born on September 2, 1799.
11. Nancy Dew was born on May 22, 1801.
12. Obedience Dew was born on October 2, 1802.

Sources

1. Edgecombe County, Will Book D, p. 148.
2. Nash County, Deed Book 2, p. 127.
3. Heads of Families, etc., in The Year 1790: North Carolina (Washington, D. C., 1908), p.57.
4. Minutes of the Edgecombe County Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions, in the North Carolina Department of Archives, Raleigh, North Carolina.
5. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 10, p. 357.
6. Nash County, Deed Book 4, p. 221.
7. Edgecombe County Court Minutes.
8. Deed Book 9, p. 322.
9. Edgecombe County Census of 1800, in The National Archives, Washington, D. C.
10. Will Book D, pp. 122/123.
11. Nash County, Deed Book 6, p. 551.

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ROBERT BRUCE EVANS

***Wilson Daily Times*, May 1, 1913**

Edited by F. D. Swindell

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Once upon a time (which is the way all narratives should begin, because it obviates the necessity of giving dates and conveniently cloaks an ignorance of history), a romantic, idealistic and adventurous Spaniard gathered about him a company of congenial spirits and with considerable eclat sailed forth from the harbor of Porto Rico. This ambitious person was clearly entitled to press notice and public attention. He should and does rank along beside Jason, Columbus, Cook and Amundson. More than that he could have given Abraham a few points on faith, for he actually believed that somewhere beyond the horizon, in the unsailed zone of the faraway, there existed a magic water whose crystalline drops conferred upon the bather the boon of eternal Youth. Ponce de Leon found alligators, palm trees and Seminole Indians but never the Fountain of Youth. It remained for Robert Bruce Evans, American, North Carolinian and democrat to discover this wonderful secret and check mate Father Time.

To meet the objections of an incredulous public, we must qualify a bit. Said Evans actually stumpled upon these youth-giving waters but the stream was so nearly dry he was able only to scoop up a few drops and press them to his heart. Thus, it happens that the charm of the marvellous liquid merely acted upon the heart and spirit of its discoverer.

Wilmington Days.

Robert Bruce Evans may have been Scotch but he isn't at all certain about it. In fact he is so emphatically democratic that he is content to assume that he possessed a great grandfather and let the matter rest there. He does know and upon information and belief alleges, that he lighted upon Tar Heel territory on the 12th day of April, 1850. He at once proceeded to make the acquaintance of Samuel Stokley Evans and Elizabeth his wife, whom he shortly afterwards consented to call father and mother.

The ensuing fourteen years in this young Lothario's life were doubtless replete with adventure, but since the lineotype man refuses to set up copy about measles, spankings, da! da! das! and youthful escapades, we are forced to skip the adolescent period, or at least, that portion of it from '40 to '64.

When Bobbie (for thus Robert Bruce Evans is known to his friends and enemies) attained the mature and hoary age of fifteen he joined the Junior Reserves in Wilmington and spent his days guarding federal prisoners and learning how to chew tobacco. He even took an occasional flyer at joy water and acquired proficiency in the art of linguistic explosives—the sort branded naughty by Sunday School teachers and parsons.

On the day preceeding the evacuation of Wilmington by the confederate forces, Bobbie got his first and last smell of powder, in manner and form following. Col. John J. Hedrick, in command of the confederate forces around Wilmington, in desperation, called upon the Junior Reserves to cease the prisoner guarding sinecure and get busy. The first service of this kindergarden band of warriors was a destructive one and not particularly hazardous. It consisted in applying the torch to two confederate gunboats in process of building and all other confederate property likely to fall into the hands of the enemy. This job completed, the Colonel led the forces over the river and into a skirmish on the Brunswick side.

The whizz of yankee bullets, the clash of yankee swords, and nauseous ordor of yankee powder provoked such a trembling and shaking in the limbs of Bobbie that he never thereafter suffered with growing pains or increased his five foot two.

[about nine lines of the article are missing here]

Hanover but it was confederate money, and confederate money had lost cast with grocers and haberdashers. Bobbie left off guarding prisoners, and cocked a contemplative blue eye, while he studied the situation. Father Samuel was dead and mother and the girls were meeting heavy weather in the struggle for existence. He felt the responsibility of the man child and determined to assume it forthwith. He studied out a scheme, financed it with a silver fifty cent piece borrowed from mother, and hung up his sign as a purveyor of newspapers. It made no difference that the papers were a month old or that he was compelled to make a yankee sutler ship the base of supplies. He secured ten and began his rounds. He bought and sold again and again until the supply was exhausted and then hurried home with eighteen plunks to the good.

Having acquired the printer habit he went to work as typesetter for the Wilmington Post. Four years later deeming himself a master of the art he cast about him for bigger things and new worlds to conquer. He found them. Some friend with a pull—a pull, by the way, is the one thing above all others that Bobbie respects and manoeuvers for—secured him a position with the New York Tribune, and on a certain spring day Bobbie climbed aboard a steamer and set his face towards the metropolis.

Did you ever hear of sea sickness? Mal de mere the French call it and we adopt their name since its sounds much more awful than the English idiom. Well, this malady laid hold of Bobbie and wrought him prodigious discomfort. Worse than that, it broke his nerve. So it happened that when the steamer passed into New York harbor Bobbie was a changed man. He caught sight of tall buildings, he saw innumerable craft, he heard whistles blowing and everything looked strange. Half dazed he negotiated a passageway across the narrow gang plank and stumbled upon terra firma. He declares it was terror firma and with the emphasis on the terror, for he had never seen so many people in his life. He surged about the crowd for nine days growing more panicky all the while and then struck out for home.

Peripatetic Predilections.

Robert B. Evans has led a will o' the wisp sort of life. He acts mainly upon impulse, and impulse will keep one continually on the trot. For illustration—Bobbie on reaching home from New York cast his lot with the Magnolia Advertiser, which, as you may surmise, was a paper published in Magnolia. Two years later we find him in Wilson as foreman of Zion's Landmark and other P. D. Gold publications. He positively was satisfied with this job for nine long years before he went over into Columbus County and started the

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(Robert Bruce Evans, continued from page 56)
Whiteville Enterprise. Leaving this thriving young sheet in charge of his nephew Edward Russ he journeyed back to Wilson and joined forces with the Wilson Advance, then edited by C. C. Daniels. Two years more glided by before a wave of wanderlust hit our journalistic friend. This time he wandered as far as Lake City, South Carolina and as usual connected with a press establishment. The Williamsburg Tattle was a nice little paper but Bobbie soon weared of the name. Right after pay day Bobbie boarded the train for Wilson and returned to the Wilson Advance. You might think he would have stopped at this but he did not. He breathed the Wilson atmosphere for a few months and then suffered a relapse of the South Carolina impulse. This led to his connection with the Peedee Index, the weekly journal in Marion. It was in Marion that he met Congressman Stackhouse and heard of the good pay and lead pipe cinch of the government job. He counted on Stackhouse for a pull, but that gentlemen unfortunately died in a month or two. Bob was not discouraged. The Washington bee had lodged in his bonnet and continued to buzz. He took counsel with himself and while cogitating bethought him of Hon. Frederick A. Woodard. Impulse got busy then and hurried Bobbie back to Wilson and the Honorable Frederick aforesaid. The twain turned the trick.
[some must be missing]
after sojourned in the capital city and drew on the United States Treasury for seven years. It was like manna from heaven and Bobbie would have repudiated his old friend impulse and become a fixture in the government printing office, but for one thing—Congressman Geo. White, the ebony hued representative of the republican party in the Second Congressional District of North Carolina. This colored politician, angered by the victory of white supremacy in North Carolina went a gunning in Washington so Bobbie avers, and got his scalp along with that of many other democratic employees in the government printing office. Whatever the reason no more pay envelopes came his way so Bobbie returned to North Carolina where he took a fling at The High Point Gazette, the Messenger, the ill-fated Industrial Advocate, and yes—he went to New York again to help the Butterick people, but his eyes went bad and he was forced to return. For eight or ten years now Bobbie has been impulseless, that is so far as such impulses prompted sudden, and more or less, protracted hikes from home. He now contents himself with corresponding for the News and Observer mainly and a few other paper incidentally, with telling jokes to his friends, working his garden and trimming his hedge.

R. B. Evans, Good Fellow.

It was remarked in the beginning that Robert Bruce Evans was blessed with eternal youth of heart and spirit. This has not prevented the years getting in a few body blows. For instance there is winter in his hair and stubby mustache and wrinkles in his physiognomy. He does not care about it for, says he, "nature never intended me for a beauty prize to begin with and old age hasn't much to disfigure." But recurring to the youth business again. Bobbie is astonishing to strangers and misunderstood by many of his acquaintances. Most folks, as you may have observed, are lacking in imagination—real imagination, we mean. Well, such people regard Bobbie as an inexplicable incongruity. His ancient seeming person and boyish spirits individualize him and set him apart from the rest of mankind as unusual. " 'Tis preposterous," cry these normal persons, "for Methusela to chase the fire wagon, to flirt with every pretty girl in town and crack jokes with everybody from the infant class to the superannuated!" Such cynics have never read of the fountain of youth or seen Peter Pan. Anyway it does not annoy Bobbie, he skips about as lively as any lad, unearthing news from obscure corners, laughing heartily and exuding merriment and good fellowship all the day long.

Bobbie has heard of grouches but never met one. First because he is himself immune and second because no grouch can face him two minutes without being routed. Bobbie is seldom sick for there isn't enough of him for sickness to get hold of. Bobbie is never idle, for when his news is gathered and his letters sent in, it is moving picture time. He holds the record for attendance on the movies, having missed only two nights in six years. Then he has a charming wife to be gallant to and explain his gallantries to others to, a clever daughter to be proud of and a town full of friends with whom to pass the time of day. But it is needless to attempt to account for Bobbie's hours. He is a live wire, double charged and swishing about. He knows everybody and everything. His attentive, upturned face, ever ready pencil and note book, quick interrogations, and bull dog pipe are as familiar to the citizens of Wilson as the dial of the town clock and the phonograph at the Lumina.

Bobbie has two supreme ambitions. First that the News and Observer will some day take a notion to publish one of his letters in full, and second to don a long tailed coat and beaver hat, and in company with Woodrow Wilson, ride slowly down Pennsylvania Avenue in a six thousand dollar motor car.

Conclusion.

In conclusion we will say that while we have spoken of Mr Robert Bruce ___ unseemly levity—he ____
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CHARITY HARRISS OBITUARY

***The Wilson Times*, January 20, 1915**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

111 Years Old.

Charity Harriss, a colored woman, said to be 111 years old, passed away last Sunday night at her home near Wilbanks.

She was probably the oldest person that ever lived in Wilson County, save Mr. Lamm, who lived and died in Old Fields township. Aunt Charity has been almost helpless for about eight or ten years. She has a number of children, some eighty years old.

She lived the greater part of her life in Stantonsburg township around the Jacob Barnes place, now the property of Mr. Walter Woodard.

Mr. Stephen Taylor will vouch for her great age. He remembers her for 80 years, and when he first saw her she appeared to be not less than 80.

He has talked with her a number of times and found her interesting in describing the incidents of long ago.

EXCERPTS FROM DANIEL LONG'S JOURNAL OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION

Matthew Conner, Springfield Middle School

[Editor's note: After hearing the prize winning essays in the Young Scholars Research—Writing Contest, it was suggested that the essays be included in *Trees.* These young writers used knowledge of the area and events of the time to write "perhaps it happened this way" stories that might have happened to our families during those times. We hope that you enjoy them and perhaps feel inspired to write your own stories of how it might have been.]

June 12, 1937

Dear Journal,

Pa had to sell old Bessie today. Good cow she was indeed, shame we had to sell her. Mammie stopped by today and said Uncle Gary and Aunt Dana was going to move out west like the other "smart" folks that was leaving, said that when she traveled up to Richmond, "things was looking bad." Momma ain't fixed me none of her special chocolate cake lately. She says "We has to save the sugar for more important things." Pa said that if we can get enough money, that we can get us some chickens and raise them so we could eat all the eggs we wanted. I don't know if I would want to have that many eggs. Old Mr. Wilkins down the road said that a 17 year old from Wilson was found dead behind his barn, says that he killed himself. I don't know why he would do that. Well momma's yelling for me to head on to sleep.

June 13, 1937

Dear Journal,

Pa plans to leave for the auction. He hopes to sell his tobacco for a pretty good price. We ain't had much rain so the tobacco dried up quick causing us to lose a good part of the crop. Last time Pa went to the tobacco market, he heard rumors that it might close. Pa don't know what we'll do fer money if the market closes. My cousin Caroline goes to school in town. Her pa is always coming out here saying, "I knew that the stock market was going to crash someday. A devilish thing that Stock Market it is." Pa always stands there waiting for him to be quiet so we can get back to work. They came over today. After they left, I asked pa what the "Stock Market" was? He just said I need not worry myself wondering about the Stock Market. So I just left it alone. Maybe tomorrow I'll ask momma if I can walk to town to get some new pants. These are getting too tight and I've worn holes all in the knees.

June 14, 1937

Dear Journal,

I asked momma if I could go get some new pants and she wouldn't let me. She said that we can't afford to get none of my "unnecessary" wants right now. Momma reminded me that we was in a "depression." What does that mean? Well I know I can't go to school no more cause I'm too busy helping pa with the farming and taking care of the animals. It's hard for folks to buy sugar and flour and things because there ain't enough to go round. Stores only sell to you if you have a special slip of paper. Ma even buried some sugar in the yard and told me I want sposed to tell nobody. Pa and me found my pig Horris curled up in a corner of the barn dead. Pa says he died of disease. Horris was a good pig, he'd come up to me and sniff my hand. I tried not to cry, but it was hard.

June 15, 1937

Dear Journal,

Today Pa had me get all the eggs from the hen house. When I went in there I saw the biggest snake I had ever saw. I screamed for Pa to come quick. When he got in there that snake was all curled up in a hen nest. Pa grabbed the hoe that was laid up against the wall, knocked that snake to the ground, and chopped his head right off. Pa swung so hard that the hoe handle broke. Pa grumbled, "Darn snake ate our eggs and caused me to break the hoe." I still shooken up about the snake encounter at dinner. I told momma I ain't never go'in in that hen house again. Pa gave me a stern look and said oh yes you will. Matter of fact after we eat we're going out there to check for eggs the snake didn't git. I wasn't too happy bout that, but I knew better than to say anything else. So I was thinking that I would invent a machine that would get eggs and then I would sell it to P. L. Woodard in Wilson. I liked go'in with pa to P. L. Woodard. It was fun to listen to all the farmers talk about their crops and what they was doing to get through the hard times.

June 16, 1937

Dear Journal,

Today we had enough eggs to sell so momma sent me to J. W. Barnes Store to try and sell some eggs, but when I got there the store was closed. I kicked the dirt as I walked home. I walked all that long way for nothing. When I got back I was tired as anything in the whole wide world, but even then Pa still put me back to work. Pa said many stores were closing up early these days cause they just didn't have stuff to sell. He told me I would go again tomorrow. Pa was a hard-working man. He had fought in the world war and had got one of them bonuses from the government. That's when he returned to the farm. He was smart and lucky that he left and came back to the farm when he did. Cause just a short while after he got back to the farm, the town in Washington where some of Pa's soldier friends lived was burned down by the government. Pa said it was shameful. He seemed sad when he talked about it.

June 17, 1937

Dear Journal,

Today pa went over to the neighbor's farm and learned that the Barnes store would only be open three days a week. It was just what Pa thought; there won't enough to sell and folks just didn't have money to spend. Pa and Mr. Scott had also talked about the tobacco market. All the farmers around kept hearing the Wilson Market was going to close. That night at supper, Pa kept going on about how we were going to make enough money to live. I never seen Pa so worried. I don't know what he's go'in to do.

June 18, 1937

Dear Journal,

Pa was calmer today but he wouldn't talk much while we was working. All he did was tell me what to do and go on with his business. I was sort of upset that he didn't want to talk to me. But I ain't let show. I wont gonna let him see that I was hurt by his unwillingness to talk. That would be silly. Besides I was sposed to be a man. So I just went on with my own. Times got to get better sometime.

APRIL 25, 2006, MEETING

The WCGS monthly meeting was held on April 25th at the Wilson County Library with Sue Powell presiding. She opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all of our visitors and a special thanks to the winners of the Wilson County Sesquicentennial writing contest. Her thanks were graciously expressed for the many kindnesses shown to Henry Powell during his weeks in the hospital.

The minutes were approved as written in *Trees,* and there was no treasurer's report because of Henry's illness. He was able to attend the meeting however.

Sue passed around newspaper clippings that were of local interest. She gave a progress report on the Founding Families Book. The last big family has been completed, now the editing and time consuming indexing must be done. Delays have been due to illness!!

It is time for our yearly social which is always in June. Last year it was in Spring Arbor's sunroom which was a wonderful location. We were warmly welcomed and enjoyed it so much that it was recommended that we inquire about the possibility of having it there again this year.

Sue's announcements included Joan Howell's efforts to save a cemetery site near Dunn's Crossroads from development. Carol Forbes is providing research for Joan. Bennett Place State Historic Site is hosting a living history program on April 29th to mark the anniversary of Confederate General Joseph Johnston's surrender to the Union. The Johnston County Society is hosting an annual workshop on Saturday June 3rd, and a program entitled "Brick Walls and What to do about Them" is to be held on May 6th in Elizabeth City.

Carol Forbes volunteered to help in the request for a 2003 obituary search. Marion H. Spencer of the Wilson Daily Times does a ten year obituary research.

Prior to our evening program, Sue talked about the importance of researching to learn about family living conditions, occupations and community activities during the era we are researching our families. She told of the Paxman family narratives, and Frances Roberson read an article which could have been written during their past history.

Phil Mooring introduced our guest writers of the evening. The sesquicentennial commission sponsored a Young Scholars Research and Writing Contest with the focus upon local history and involved all schools throughout the county. Committees from each school selected and recommended the five best papers and submitted them to the county level for competition at the end of the contest which ran from September 15 until December 5th.

Each contestant was to assume that he or she was a Wilson County resident during the period of their assigned topic years and write a journal, letter, or diary which reflected historical and cultural conditions representative of that era. The topics were:

For middle school: The Great Depression, especially the years 1937-1938

For high school: The American Civil War, especially the years 1864-1865

For college students: World War II, especially the years 1944-1945

First place winners in each level received $1000.00, second place received $500.00, and third place winners received $250.00. The winners were determined by a panel of judges selected by the Wilson County Sesquicentennial Commission.

Matthew Connor, winner from the middle school, read his paper entitled "Journal of a Wilson County Depression Era Youth." The high school winner Ethan Evans wrote "Letters to a Wilson County Confederate Soldier from His Son," and on the college level Jennifer Daniel's title was "Letters to a Wilson County WWII Soldier from His Wife."

Listening to these young writers as they read their papers not only gave us insight into things from the past through their eyes, but it was easy to see why they were winners!!!!

Sue expressed her thanks and asked for permission to print the papers in future issue of *Trees*. Pictures were taken of our honored guests and Phil Mooring. The meeting was adjourned and an informal session was enjoyed with members sharing finds and ideas for searching.

Frances Roberson

Following the April WCGS meeting there was some discussion about Sue's need for a new indexing progam to complete work on the Founding Families Book. Since there was a majority of the board members in attendance, it was agreed to allow her to purchase what she needed. Phil Mooring made the motion, it was seconded and passed.

Frances Roberson

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

(John Dew, continued from page 55)

12. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 10, p. 281.
13. Edgecombe County Court Minutes.
14. Nash County, Deed Book 7, p. 82.
15. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 11, pp. 115/116.
16. Deed Book 10, p. 490.
17. Deed Book 11, p. 630.
18. Will Book D, p. 286.
19. Deed Book 12, p. 405; Deed Book 13, p. 174.
20. Edgecombe County Census of 1810, in the National Archives.
21. Nash County, Deed Book 5, p. 328.
22. Deed Book 5, p. 323.
23. Edgecombe County Court Minutes.
24. Nash County, Deed Book 5, p. 346.
25. Deed Book 5, p. 358.
26. Edgecombe County, Inventories & Accounts of Sales of Estates, 1811-1813, pp. 245/246.
27. Deed Book 15, pp. 393/394.
28. Deed Book 15, pp. 394/395.
29. Deed Book 15, p. 292.
30. Deed Book 15, pp. 391/392.
31. Deed Book 17, p. 511.
32. Deed Book 18, p. 39,
33. Deed Book 18, p. 493.
34. Deed Book 20, p. 305.

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County
Genealogical Society
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Davis, Dew, Evans, Peele, Taylor

May 2006

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___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900. $40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00
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Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
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___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882 $5.00
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Miscellaneous

___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation $5.00 shipping included
___ Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) $5.00 shipping included
___ 2002 WCGS Calendar (Rock Ridge area) $5.00
___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township) $5.00
___ 2005 WCGS Calendar (Elm City) $5.00
___ 2006 WCGS Calendar (Black Creek) $10.00

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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

June 2006 Volume 15 Number 6

President's Message

As stated in May, after the organization of WCGS, we began activities to provide assistance to researchers and to preserve the heritage of Wilson County.

Under the direction of Joan Howell, we undertook the task of surveying the cemeteries in Wilson County. We documented 244 cemeteries with the publication of our first volume of cemetery surveys in 1993; 75 cemeteries, including several large town cemeteries, in the second volume in 1993; 121 cemeteries, including Evergreen Memorial Gardens, in the third volume in 1995; and Maplewood Cemetery in the fourth volume in 1998. At least two more volumes are needed to complete the project.

Sadly, the records in the books of some of these cemeteries are all that remain of them. Farmers have encroached the cemetery boundaries. Highways have been built, and housing developments have displaced cemeteries and farm land.

State laws have been written to protect small family cemeteries; however, in most cases they are difficult to enforce. A farmer sends out someone to disk a field who doesn't know the law and doesn't care about anything but getting the job done as soon as possible. He doesn't care if he clips or knocks down a grave marker. After all, it's not his family.

It will take vigilance to ensure that additional damage is not done or other cemeteries lost. Joan Howell and Jerry Stancil, two of our members, are actively working to preserve some cemeteries which have been identified as in danger. They would welcome the participation of additional members in this effort.

Sue Powell

ANNUAL SOCIAL JUNE 27TH
6:30 PM, Spring Arbor Sunroom

With the beginning of summer, our thoughts turn to family reunions, picnics, and travel plans. In that spirit, WCGS continues its tradition of a summer picnic (in air conditioned, bug free comfort).

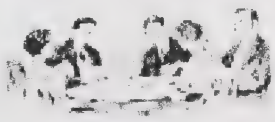
Sonja Stone, Activities Director, and Eva Artis, Administrator, at Spring Arbor, have again made available their lovely sunroom for our gathering. We met there last year and found the setting very attractive and comfortable, and the Spring Arbor staff most helpful.

Spring Arbor is easy to find, just off Raleigh Road, at 2045 Ward Blvd., Wilson. The sunroom is at the left end of the building when you enter the parking lot. Park at that end and enter through the door at the far left end.

We will provide plates, utensils, napkins, cups and lemonade. You bring your favorite picnic food and something for a door prize—something funny or something of value. It is always fun to see what you might get.

Bring your spouse and/or a friend. If you have friends who have been thinking about joining, invite them to give them a chance to get to know some of us. This is always a relaxed occasion enjoyed by all.

We hope to see you there!



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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON
Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them.

[Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We started this series of letters in the May issue and will continue the letters in future issues of *Trees.*]

Wilson, N. C.
Sept. 17, 1898

Dear Nip: - - -

The wheel arrived safe, and I put it up and found it rode as of yore. The ties are very pretty. I have one on now. They are the first of the kind I have ever worn.

The riding [bicycle] around here is first rate. The roads are rather sandy, but there are side paths almost always. Besides, the pikes are numerous and as good as you could wish. The riding along the railroad is splendid. You could ride a century a day and not mind it—that is, if the side paths everywhere are as good as they are here. This country is an old marine plain. The soil resembles that at Churchland—no rocks and packs into a smooth hard path. The sand, too, is peculiarly firm. You see a great sand bank and ride over it and hardly feel the extra exertion. The sidewalks are unpaved and quite smooth and we can ride on them.

Yesterday afternoon I rode up the

(Continued on page 62)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 61)

track about 11½ miles. It was an almost perfect ride, both as to temperature and road. On the way I passed a man on a "Crescent." It looked like old times.

Just now I am a perfect Lazarus. Travelling around with the girls—eating rich food and drinking iced drinks every few minutes almost, irregular in all my habits—got me bilious, and my blood is in a fearful condition. Sores broke out around my mouth first, spread into my beard and thence over my face. I haven't shaved in a week and I am truly a "beaut." These sores were all watery, and wherever this water ran became a new sore. Now the sores, though about as large are dryer and I have reason to believe will soon be well. I am, of course, doctoring myself, and my condition is much better. Don't tell the folks. They will worry, thinking it is worse than it is.

My school week passed very pleasantly. I am going to have a regular "snap." My grade is the smallest in school and of the best material. Keeping order is the easiest job imaginable. On the playground the whole school, about 420, is the best behaved I ever saw. Supt. Mangum is always present, and the pupils both love and respect him. In about a week now, as my work is so light, I shall begin doing some tutoring. I can probably get all the pupils I desire as I wrote Father. I can also count on a good amount of shorthand work. Altogether, then, I think this the best position I ever held.

I suppose Temple is much depressed over the turn my plans regarding him have taken. I am truly sorry—even now I sometimes feel like saying, "Come on"—but you wouldn't blame me if you saw my last letter to Father. Probably you did see it; if not, ask about it. It contained a long extract from a letter of Nola's in which she told the true history of Temple's life at Mr. Deans.' We have been totally deceived. I cannot but blame Mr. Deans somewhat. He oughtn't to have written so flatteringly of Temple if he knew him to be so far astray. Still, if father will start him to another school I'll help pay his expenses.

Write me of your self and … Write soon.

Your Bro. C. C. C.

BENNETT BARNES OBITUARY

Zion's Landmark, November 1, 1907

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

BENNETT BARNES.

This brother was a member of the church at Scotts, Wilson county, N. C. He attended the Union Meeting there the 5th Sunday in September. On his way home death met him in the road and was very different from what he had imagined. It was very pleasant to him. When he went home he told his wife death had met him and instead of its being alarming to him it was very agreeable, and a pleasant exchange, and told his wife he would soon depart. She said, "Oh, Bennett, do not talk so, what can I and the little children do without you?" He said, "I shall remain with you a few days." During that week he was taken sick and said to his wife, do not leave me. They called in the physicians, and he was operated upon for fistulo. Blood poison set in. On Saturday night he requested his mother-in-law to sit up and talk all night to him. This she did, and until 9 o'clock Sunday morning. At that time he said, death has now come, and I feel very happy, only I have trouble in breathing as when I am grubbing. He said he regretted leaving his wife and children, but otherwise was willing to go and was happy, and fell asleep at 6 o'clock one week from the time death met him on the road.

…

P. D. G.

WILL OF JETHRO BARNES
N. C. State Archives, 103.801.1
Wayne County Wills, 1816

March the 13th Day 1816

Whereas I Jetherue Barnes Being weak in body but of sound and perfect mind and memory thanks be to God do make and publish this and no other to be my last will and Testament that is to say viz

In the first place I lend to my beloved wife Milicent Barnes the whole of land Dureing her life & widowhood with the exception of my mother-inlaw Feraba Barnes having the same preveledge as she usely has had heretofore on it

after the Decease or marriage of my wife I give my land to be equeally Devided betwesct by two sons Jesse and Josiah Barnes Josiahs part of the land to take the houses and maner plantation whereon I now live to them and thire heirs forever

also after paying my Just Debts I lend the whole Ballance of my estate to my Beloved wife the whole Ballance of my estate and after her Decease or marriage give to be equally Divided amongst my six children Chery Nance Jesse Josiah Betsy & Penny Barnes

also I Constitute and appoint by Brother Jacob Barnes and my beloved wife executors to this my last will and Testament in witness whereof I have set my hand and seal the Day and year above writin signed sealed and acknowledged

Jethro Barnes

In presents of us
Jacob Fulghum
Simon Barnes

Milly Barnes Exr
Jacob Barnes gld

WILL OF MILICENT BARNES
N. C. State Archives, Wilson County, 1862

In the name of God Amen, I Milicent Barnes of the County of Wilson and state of Northcarolina do on this twentyeth day of January one Thousand Eight hundred and fifty six make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following, viz. first I give to my daughter Chery Farrell her choice cow and calf & one sow and pigs. Item I give to my son Josiah Barnes my part of the mill & machine across Black Creek which is two thirds of the mill & all the machine also one falling leaf Table. Item I give to my Daughter Elizabeth Hooks wife of Simon Hooks, one beaufot and contents one safe one Table also all my wearing apparel. Item I give unto my grand Daughter Milicent Barnes daughter of Josiah Barnes one feather bed bedstead and furniture

And the ballance of my property that I have not above given away, that is all my stock of hogs sheep cows & other stock that may be on hand at my death, also money & notes that be remaining after paying all my Just debts and funeral Expenses, I give to my son Josah Barnes & Elizabeth Hook to be Equally divided between them

As I hereby nominate and appoint my son Josiah Barnes Executor to this my last will and testament the day and year above written. In witness whereof I Milicent Barnes have here unto set my hand and seal

her
Milicent X Barnes
mark

Test *Jesse Fulghum*
John Hays

Wilson County Court
April in AD 1862

The within and foregoing paper writing purpoting to be the last will and testament of Milicent Barnes deceased, is exhibited for probate in open court by Josiah Barnes the executor therein named and the due execution thereof by the said Milicent Barnes is proven by the oath and examination of Jesse Fulghum and John Hayse the subscribing witnesses thereto, It is therefore considered by the court that the said paper writing and every part thereof, is the last will and testament of the said Milicent Barnes and the same is ordered to be recorded and filed And thereupon the said Josiah Barnes Executor as aforesaid duly qualifies as such by taking the oath required by law

T C Davis Clk

[Editor's note: Jethro Barnes was the son of Jesse Barnes and his first wife Orpha Fort whom he married February 2, 1761, in Edgecombe County. George Fort was the bondsman. Feraba Barnes was apparently his step mother. Milicent Barnes may have been either a Daniel or a Farmer prior to her marriage to Jethro. Your editor would appreciate any evidence which would prove or disprove her parentage.

In 1850, Milly Barnes, age 67, lived next to her son Josiah, age 38, and wife Sarah, age 37, in Wayne County. His daughter Milly, age 14, was one of the children in the household.

Cherry Barnes, daughter of Jethro and Milicent, married first Thomas Evans who died in 1848 in Edgecombe County. She married second Joseph Ferrell on May 11, 1853, at his home in Wayne County (now Wilson).]

GEORGE W. CONNOR

***Wilson Daily Times,* May 15, 1913**

Edited by F. B. Swindell

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

To be a popular public man in these days, that is popular with all classes, cliques and factions, is indeed a matter of difficulty. It requires an ensemble of attributes, a sum total of characteristics rarely flung together in one individual. The fundimental requirement is cleanness, to which must be added tact, diplomacy, broad sympathy, a comprehensive knowledge of men and affairs, clear judgment, largeness of view and a deal of human sympathy, and to these, personal magnetism. The day of the faddist in politics is over, the sway of the impeccably orthodox, one sided leader is done. The people no longer pay fearful heed to the threat of an ancient bugabo or fall into line at the crack of the party whip. They view a situation from all standpoints and follow the dictates of an unfettered judgment. They accept a leader, not because he is a Democrat, a republican or progressive, but because he is a man.

It is therefore no mean tribute to the excellencies of our fellow townsman Hon. George W. Connor that he has attained a commanding position in the social and political life of our state. Has attained it, and so far as indications go, will maintain it indefinately.

Next July, if we are correctly informed as to the time, the Hon. George will don the judicial robe and assume the exalted title of His Honor. Such being the case we hasten to unlimber our editorial battery and fire a charge of partly flippant partly serious observations upon him before our lese majesty can be summarily punished by a writ of contempt.

INITIAL OBSERVATIONS.

George is not a civil war veteran nor an elderly citizen. In fact, even Dr. William Ostler would be compelled to let him remain on the active list, for George is not yet forty-five, not by several years. He began counting his age from the 24th day of October, 1872, and he began counting it right here in Wilson. The marks! set! go! in this counting race took place at the Billie Simms house on Greene street.

Having no first hand knowledge of the youth of the first judge of the reformed Second Judicial District we made various and sundry inquires on some of his former playmates. Our information was disappointing, almost discouraging for each and every one of these aforesaid playmates positively declared that George had been a good boy, moral, studious and exemplary. It is a fearful thing to start a career under any such handicap and we are secretly hoping that the memories of these boyhood contemporaries of his have proved treacherous. To be a good boy is so un-American, so un-North Carolinian that we refuse point blank to saddle our subject with any such infamy.

However that may be George was advantaged in his adolescent period by the wise and sympathetic direction, control and advice of cultured and sensible parents. His father held to the theory that all play and no work would make Jack a useless boy, a theory that all the wisest fathers hold to. This, together with a natural aptitude for industry, has been a wonderful factor in determining the life and character or our next judge.

EDUCATION.

The young George was educationally disposed from the outset, and it is really a miracle that he did not drift into the highbrow realm of college professordom. When he first tackled the alphabet and words of one syllable he did so under Mrs. E. B. Adams at Pro. J. B. Brewer's school, which school some of you will remember, was located on the spot now occupied by the residence of Mr. Jim Wiggins. After the blue back speller period had been passed George entered the school of Elder Sylvester Hassel, and finally, when the graded school was established here in 1881 with Mr. Julian L. Tomlinson in charge George became one of the charter members.

We would rejoice to be able to tell you that during these days George played baseball, went fishing and hunting, "swiped" peached, apples and watermellons, ran away and went swimming, "chunked" at cats and scrapped three times a day, but it would be a mere guess. That he made goo-goo eyes at the lassies; that he passed notes in school; That "he gave his presents to them all, his pencils blue and red," it is safe to believe.

In 1908, when just sweet-and, if the truth must be told – fat sixteen, he began his freshman year at the University of North Carolina. Rob Whitehead, Paul Branch and Lee Woodard were there at the same time and while there isn't a scintilla of evidence that these young gentlemen indulged in the fascinating pastime of poker, it would be safe to guess that if they did, Lee Woodard raked in many a pot. Not that Lee plays poker but that he has a very persuasive way with money.

HONORS.

While at Chapel Hill George contracted the habit of "freezing on to" honors, a habit that he continues to indulge in. He was elected president of the Phi Society—an incubating place for orators, debaters and politicians. In 1891 he won the Representatives medal by his commencement oration; in '91-92 he was editor of the University Magazine; in '92 he won the debaters medal in the Phi Society; in the same year he was one of the Senior Speakers, and lastly, he was a member of the S. A. E. fraternity—which is the only thing in his record that Woodrow Wilson could have objected to.

PEDAGOGUE.

Immediately following his graduation, and before he was twenty, George was elected principle of the Goldsboro graded schools. The writer of this article was a pupil there at the time and no amount of assurance can convince him that Pro. George was not fifty years old, at least. This first taste of pedagogy proved attractive, so two years later when Wilson offered him the superintendency of its schools, he accepted and held the job for three and a half years.

MARRIAGE AND OTHER FACTS.

In 1894 George married Miss Bessie Hadley, which, by the way he is prouder of than anything else he ever did, and justly so.

During the nineties George began reading law. By '99 he had learned all about hereditaments, escheats, seizens etc., and secured his license. He opened office and went it alone

(Continued on page 65)

(George W. Connor, Continued from page 64)
until 1903, when he and H. G. Connor, Jr. (better known as Tobe) joined forces under the firm name of Connor & Connor. These lads made a strong team. They knew the law, they knew the regular and the irregular litigants; they knew all the juries, and above all they knew just how much they could charge a client and not bankrupt him.

As soon as George hung out his shingle and grew accustomed to the Esq. appendex to his name, he turned to his habit of gathering in honors. He became Chairman of the Board of Education in 1899, which office he held again in 1907; he was elected Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee in 1904 and upon quitting this job in 1908 went to the legislature. He evidently was fond of legislation, for in 1910 and again in 1912, he suffered his Wilson county friends to relect him to a desk in the General Assembly. The only man—by the way—from Wilson County, who has served three consecutive terms in the Legislature. During his first session he was appointed chairman of the Committee on Education, partly because he wanted it but chiefly because he was the best man for the place. Two years later he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the most important committee in the House, and in 1912 having no further committee to aspire to he was unanimously chosen by the Democratic caucus for Speaker.

PERSONAL SIDE.

Judge Connor is a man of parts and appearance. He is not an ideal Apollo because forsooth he is a bit too bulky. Not really fat, you know, but substantial in person—a trifle above standard at the waist line. He is a well groomed man, not a sartorial dandy, but a conservative, tasty dresser; one of the sort who looks nice without being conspicuous. He wore a swallow tail for several years, but abandoned it last fall after seeing Teddy prancing in front of the Progressive party in the same sort of uniform. His hair was once black and glossy, and is still, in spots, where the gray of middle age has not invaded. His head is large, shaped a la Webster; his features are not exactly clear cut but they are shapely and marked with the marks of the intellectual and educated man. His mouth is very expressive and mobile except when disfigured with a Nurica cigar.

But the Judge isn't without physical imperfections. For one thing his legs are somewhat shorter than they really ought to be, necessitating an ambulatory locomotion suggestive to the old time minuette. His hands are slightly soft and smooth for a Wilson lawyer and his frequent air of perfect, restful contentment suggestive of an indolence he does not possess.

Socially the Judge is quite fit. He overflows with the hospitality, the genialness and the rich courtesy of the old south. He is a captivating—though somewhat long winded conversationalist, a raconteur of merit, and occasionally a good listener. He is a good mixer with the fellows and quite familiar with topics of conversation from baseball to Schedule K, and from current fiction to the rambling philosophy of Marcus Aurelius.

The Judge has quite a reputation in these parts as an orator. It makes no difference whether it be a jury speech, a political hustings, a literary address or an after dinner talk, he is equally ready with the goods. Give him chance to clear his throat a few times and he will deliver eloquence on demand.

It is the custom of most judges, after they have been in office a little while, to assume an air of chilling dignity, a frigid aloofness, an unapprochable hauteur, accented by an occasional condescension, especially to all younger men, that is contrary to the democratic and Jeffersonian ideas of our country and disgusting to all decent thinking men. We are banking on our new judge to help correct ___ evil by his frank and winning ___liness to all men.

With an unusual amount ___ ability, a great father to ___ter, a splendid and charming ___ advise him and help him, a ___ witty and outspoken brother ___ him speech direct, if neces___ the good wishes of the ___ munity to urge him on, we ___ prophesy big things for ___ George Whitfield Connor.

[Editor's note: One half inch was missing from the right bottom corner of the article. With a little imagination, we can fill in most of the blanks.]

BENJAMIN WILKINSON JP CERTIFICATION

Transcribed from a photocopy of the original

September 10th 1839.

I Benjamin Wilkinson a Justice of the Peace for the County of Edgecombe do certify that I was called upon by Gray Armstrong in last January to marry his Daughter Ann Eliza to Micajah Viverett. he stated at the time that he had gotten his daughter to agree to the marriage, but was fearful if it was delayed she might change her mind & the Licence could be gotten afterwards. As the request came from the father of the girl I consented to perform the ceremony not knowing of any difficulty. I accordingly married them & the licence was obtained a few days afterwards. I learnt the next day that the girl refused to bed & cohabit with the man & from my knowledge of what has taken place I have cause to believe they never have bedded & cohabited as man & wife. She is a girl of fair & irreproachle character. B. Wilkinson JP

[Editor's note: Williams & Griffin's *Marriages of Early Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1733-1868* includes two marriage bonds for Ann Eliza Armstrong. James Wilkins was issued a bond to marry Ann Eliza Armstrong on 29 Dec. 1832, Clemmons Darden, bondsman; T. C. Hearn, witness. Micajah Viverette was issued a bond to marry Ann Eliza Armstrong on 30 Jan. 1833, James Viverette, bondsman. It was reported in the Tarboro newspaper that Redding Worsley married Ann Eliza Armstrong, daughter of Gray Armstrong, on August 28, 1842. (*Deaths and Marriages from Tarboro Newspapers, 1824-1865,* compiled by Hugh Buckner Johnston). Redding and Ann Eliza do not appear in the 1850 census of either of Wilson County's parent counties.

Gray Armstrong, son of Robert Armstrong and his wife Mary Newsome, married Martha Ann "Patsey" Williams. Both were members of the Falls of Tar River Primitive Baptist Church. (Hugh B. Johnston Armstrong Family File)

Redding Worsley, born October 12, 1815, died December 26, 1888, was the son of William and Elizabeth Worsley. (*Bible Records of Early Edgecombe,* Williams & Griffin)

MATHEW WILDER AND OTHERS V. JACOB STRICKLAND

North Carolina Reports, Vol. 55, June Term 1856

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

Where the erection of a public mill is demanded by the necessities and convenience of the public, and will materially conduce to the advantage of the owner of the mill-seat, the possible result of some small and uncertain injuries to two of the adjacent proprietors of land, by overflowing it, and slightly affecting the health of their families, was not deemed by the Court a sufficient ground to interfere by injunction to prevent the work, especially as those proprietors would have a remedy at law if their fears should be realized.

This was a bill for an injunction to prevent the defendant from building a mill on Tar River, transmitted from the Court of Equity of Nash County. ...

The plaintiffs allege in their bill, that they each own and reside upon lands lying on the Tar River, in the County of Nash, and have been so residing for many years past; that the defendant, Jacob Strickland, has commenced erecting a grist and saw-mill on that river, about a mile below the residences of the plaintiffs, and was just about commencing to build a dam across the river, which would pond the water back upon the plaintiffs, and, as they believed, would cause much damage to their lands by overflowing them, and by saturating them with water, so as to render them unfit for cultivation; that the pond of water thus raised would, as they believed, destroy the health of their families, impair the values of their estates, and finally compel them to remove. They further allege that there is no necessity for the proposed mill; that there is already a very good one a short distance off, and that this structure is not desired by the neighborhood; so far from that, they say the community there are *strongly opposed* to its erection. The prayer of the bill is for an injunction to restrain the building of the proposed mill. The injunction had issued by an order of the Judge at Chambers, and has been since pending. There was a prayer also for general relief.

The answer of the defendant denied the allegations as to injuries to the lands of the plaintiffs, and the health of their families, and denied that the neighboring community was opposed to the proposed work; asserting its great necessity and convenience to the public, and that it was greatly desired by the neighbors. The answer also stated that the proposed mill was intended as a substitute for an old one which defendant owned on another stream, about a quarter of a mile off, which was very insufficient and unsatisfactory to the public, and much more injurious to the health of the community than the intended mill could possibly prove, and which it was his intention to pull down as soon as the new one was finished.

...

Miller and Cantwell for plaintiffs.

Moore for defendant.

Nash, C. J. The bill is filed to enjoin the defendant from erecting a mill, upon the allegation that it will cause much damage to the lands of the plaintiffs by rendering them of no value for cultivation where they are cleared, and destroying the timber and other growth where they are not cleared, and they fear will destroy the health of their families. The defendant admits he is about to erect a public mill at the place designated; that the site is a very favorable one for such an establishment. He denies that it will overflow or render sobby and unfit for cultivation any part of the lands of the plaintiffs, and denies that it will render the families in the neighborhood unhealthy. The plaintiffs further allege that a large majority of the neighbors are against the erection of the mill. This is denied by the defendant. The answer further states that the defendant is the owner of a mill on Turkey Creek, which is not more than a half a mile from his new site, and which has a more extensive pond than the contemplated mill will have; and that it is the opinion of a number of the neighbors that the pulling down of the old mill, which the defendant intends to do, as soon as the new one is erected, and the erection of a new one, will be more useful to the neighborhood, and less injurious to the health of it, than the old one.

... Many depositions have been taken on both sides. We will examine the testimony of the plaintiffs first.

H. H. Bryant testifies that the old mill is a wet-weather mill, and that, in the summer months, it cannot make flour, or saw.

Dr. Drake is of opinion that the breaking up of the old mill will prove beneficial to the health of the neighborhood.

Dr. Matthews knows the river, and judging by his eye, thinks a six-foot dam would so raise the water in the river, as to prevent the plaintiff Wilder, from clearing a valuable piece of land, containing forty or fifty acres, and would *likely* produce disease in his family.

Mr. Morgan never leveled the ground, but, judging by his eye thinks a six-foot dam would back the water up two or three branches on Wilder's land, so as probably to overflow some of the low places; covering how much land he does not know; and that the pond *might* injure the health of Wilder's family; and that it is difficult, at times, to get meal from the old mill.

Mr. Cone agrees with Mr. Morgan as to the overflowing of the low places in the guts and branches, and as to getting meal; there was a difficulty at times, at the old mill, and he thinks a new mill is necessary to supply the neighborhood.

Dr. Mann thinks it probable, that in the year 1846, the families of Williams and Strickland; were made sickly by the old pond. He further states that the old mill cannot supply the neighborhood, and the proposed mill, on the river, is *necessary,* and will prove a great convenience to the neighbors, there not being a constantly grinding mill for about eighteen miles above it.

Mr. Taylor, does not think a six-foot dam will pond the water back on the lands of the plaintiffs.

James Strickland, son of the plaintiff Zadock Strickland, and son-in-law to the plaintiff Wilder, thinks a six-foot dam would throw the water up the guts and ravines, and effectually prevent the draining of portions of the low grounds of Wilder and Strickland, and thinks it would injure the health of their families. Has never known a dam across Tar river to produce sickness.

Reddin Strickland, another son of plaintiff Strickland,

(Continued on Page 67)

(Wilder v. Strickland, continued from page 66)
thinks as his brother does as to the river dam's producing sickness in the families of his father and Wilder, and that it would injure about fifty acres of the land of each.

Condary O. Strickland, another son of the plaintiff Strickland, agrees with his brothers as to probable effect of the dam upon the health of the families of Wilder and his father, and thinks about eight or ten acres of the land of both Wilder and his father would be covered by the water.

William Wilder, a relative, thinks the dam would sob a great deal of the land of the plaintiffs, but does not think it would cover any.

This is the evidence of the plaintiffs. Does it sustain the allegations of their bill? We think it does not. It is true that the river-dam may, and no doubt will, pond the water back into the guts and ravines on the lands of the plaintiffs, to the extent of eight or ten acres on each, as stated by C. O. Strickland; but the last witness, Wm. Wilder, and the witness Taylor, do not think it will cover any of their land. The first allegation of the bill is not sustained. As to the second, relating to the effect of the river-dam upon the health of the neighborhood, the physicians who were examined testified as to the origin and effect of malaria in producing disease. None of them, however, testified that the river-dam would produce disease. It might or it might not. Even the sons of the plaintiff Strickland do not say it *will,* but they think it will. This allegation is not sustained.

As to the allegation that the neighbors are in general opposed to the erection of the proposed mill, there is no evidence on the part of the plaintiffs; but there is, from his own witnesses, sufficient evidence to show that the mill contemplated by the defendant is required, not only by the convenience of the neighborhood, but by their necessities. The old mill is a wet-weather mill, and it is often impossible in the summer-time to get even meal from it, and it cannot, at those times make flour, or saw. Every one who depends upon a wet-weather mill knows the inconvenience to which they are often exposed in sending to a distant river-mill. In this case, Dr. Mann, a witness of the plaintiffs, states that the contemplated mill is required, not only by the necessities of the neighborhood, but by its convenience, as there is no mill on the river above it, for upwards of eighteen miles.

Considering the proofs offered by the plaintiffs as not sustaining the allegations of the bill, we have not brought forward, in detail, the proofs of the defendant. They, however, fully sustain the defense, that the contemplated mill will neither injure the health of the families of the plaintiffs, nor cause such an injury to their lands, as will justify the Court denying to the neighborhood the convenience of a public mill which will grind all the year. His proofs also show that if the river-mill shall prove injurious to the health of the families of the plaintiffs, it will not be as much so as is the old pond which he intends to dispense with as soon as the new mill is erected. If upon such evidence as is offered by the plaintiffs, the courts will interfere to restrain the building of a mill, it must be built in a wilderness where there is no one to be injured, either in health or property; for it must needs be, that in a thickly settled neighborhood, some one must be injured in one way or the other. We are satisfied, too, from the testimony of the defendant, that not only is such a mill required by the necessities and convenience of the neighborhood, but a very large portion of it desires its erection. It is not every slight or doubtful injury, that will justify the Court in exerting their extraordinary power of injunction in restraining a man from using his property as his interest may demand, when the benefit of such user is mutual to the public and to the owner.

Should the fears, real or assumed, of the plaintiffs, as to the effects of the proposed mill upon the health of their respective families be realized, they will not be without redress. The courts of law will be open to them, and they will go into them with more grace, having by these proceedings put the defendant on his guard.

Per curiam.

Bill dismissed with costs.

JACOB STRICKLAND'S CUSTOMERS

N. C. State Archives, N. C. Reports, Vol. 55, June Term 1856

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

Names of persons who are customers although not subscribing by themselves as such.

1. Wm Stone
2. W. Crowder
3. Thos Crickman
4. Willis Warren
5. Jno O W Perry
6. T. N Bryant
7. J W Vester
8. Edmund Sikes
9. Bolan Melton
10. Gray Strickland
11. Jno J. Taylor
12. Drew Deans
13. Wm Deans
14. Jno M Hendrick
15. James Vinson
16. Bnj Whitly
17. C. Johnson
18. J H Edward
19. Jas Soloman
20. Whit Hopkins
21. Uriah Crickmen
22. Madison Sykes
23. Wm Hunt
24. Jesse Davis
25. Jno K Strickland
26. A. R Strickland
27. Jesse Gincken
28. Jno Morgan
29. Wm Gay
30. Theo Dodd
31. Ruffin Whitly

WILLIAM BATTS, SR., (1742 – 1806)
A Wilson County Pioneer
Hugh B. Johnston, Jr.

Although not so old as some, the Batts family has been represented in what is now Wilson County for a total of 182 years. They are still found mostly in Wilson, Toisnot, and Gardner's Townships, within a four-mile radius of Rosebud. All descend from William Batts, Sr., a son of John and Lucy Batts of Surry County, Virginia, where he was born about the year 1742. His mother died about the time he came of age, and his father married a young wife and began a second family. It appeared that his fortunes might improve in a different locality, by practicing his trade of saddle-making.

At first he went only a short distance into the adjoining County of Southampton, where he met and married, in 1768, Chastity Barnes, daughter of Joshua Barnes (wife Lucy) whose will was dated August 12, 1762, and named her among his other children. It is not known when they moved to Brunswick County, but the name of Will Batts, private, appeared on the roster of a local Militia Company dated May 4, 1776. On December 16, 1778, he paid Cathon Griffin for a tract of 238 acres on Reed Branch in Meherrin Parish. On February 18, 1788, just before moving to Edgecombe (now Wilson) County, William and Chastity (X) Batts of Brunswick County sold William Ezell the preceding planation for £150 in current Virginia money.

Meanwhile, before the end of 1782, Chastity's brother, Britain Barnes, had left Southampton County and had settled between Toisnot and Hominy Swamps. On December 21, 1784, Britain purchased from Nicholas and Rachel Thorne the tract on Town Creek where he spent the remainder of his life. William Batts was visiting in Edgecombe County at the time and witnessed the deed, but he had been dead for eleven years when it was finally recorded on November 24, 1817. It is believed that William rented part of this farm for about three years, before the purchase of [a] large tract by his oldest son from Joseph Farmer on February 28, 1791.

In the Edgecombe County Census of 1790 William Batts was listed twice; the correct enumeration gave him and wife [,] one son over sixteen, four sons under sixteen, and one daughter. On October 20, 1797, the Edgecombe County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions ordered him to be responsible one year for the care of a section of the public road in the vicinity of his house near Town Creek. On October 20, 1797, Frederick (X) Batts, saddler, sold William Batts, saddler, for £133.6.8 current money 410 acres on Town Creek (160 acres south of a prong of Town Creek, plus 250 acres adjoining "John Thomas's new line and Thomas Vivret's old line"); witnessed by Jeremiah (X) Batts. (Edgecombe County, Deed Book 9, p. 262)

William Batts was probably in Tennessee in 1800 when the Edgecombe County Census listed Chasetty Batts as the head of a family consisting of two sons 16-26, one daughter 16-26, one son 10-16, one female under ten, and herself over forty-five. On March 15, 1803, Wm. Batts Senr sold Britain Barnes for £100 in specie money a tract 95½ acres south of the Great Swamp of Town Creek, formerly the property of Joseph Farmer; witnessed by Britain Barnes and John Barnes. This left a plantation of 314½ acres when he died in 1806.

William Batts signed his will on a poorly written half-sheet of paper which was recorded on November 27, 1806. It bequeathed to his wife "Cheasea" Batts the lifetime use of the home plantation, the horse, cattle, hogs, and household furniture, after which it would be shared equally by his five youngest sons. The youngest son Benjamin received the colt, and the next son received the mare. The witnesses were Britain (Britton) Barnes and [his son] John Barnes. All the children were born in Virginia except Benjamin. Their mother was born about 1747 and died early in 1810. She may have had other children, but only six sons and one daughter reached maturity and married.

1. Frederick Batts was born about 1769 and married Kate ___, probably before going in 1796 to Sumner County, Tennessee. He was back in Edgecombe (now Wilson) County in 1800, but went with two of his brothers in 1804 to Robertson County, where he was living as late as 1830. His large and eccentric wife was unfortunately identified by local superstition as the famous Bell Witch of Middle Tennessee. This was a source of great embarrassment to the families of her husband's two brothers in Robertson County, and some of their grandchildren appear to have even denied the family relationship, although Frederick and Kate left five daughters and a son. [See *Trees,* November 2002 for Bell Witch story.]
2. William Batts (June 10, 1771-September 18, 1856) married twice and has a large number of descendants now living in Wilson and Nash Counties. His second wife Martha Woodard (1789-October 19, 1869), was a daughter of Elisha Woodard and wife Sarah Howell of Gardner's Township. At the time of his death he owned twenty-four slaves, over 1,000 acres of land, and $5,700 in cash. During the Civil War, his son Colonel William Woodard Batts was a Confederate Commissary Agent in Wilson County.
3. Jeremiah Batts (September 18, 1772-September 26, 1854) married Elizabeth Williams, daughter of John and Mourning Williams of the Town Creek area. They went to Robertson County, Tennessee, in 1804 and left ten children whose descendants have been both numerous and prominent in the life of that area. He was a member of the Red River Baptist Church.
4. Phereby Batts married Jeremiah Winstead of Edgecombe County on or about October 21, 1799. On October 1, 1803, she became one of the first members enrolled at Upper Town Creek (Primitive) Baptist Church after its organization.
5. Bailey Batts (1780-1855) married Easter Jordan (1778-1866). They lie in unidentified graves in the old graveyard north of Rosebud in Wilson County. He owned no slaves but approximately 1,200 acres of land and was the father of Wiley Jordan Batts (February 28, 1819-October 29, 1902), a "botanical physician" celebrated in the northwestern portion of Wilson County.
6. John Batts (1782-1857) married Mary Bateman (1792-1851), daughter of John and Keziah Bateman. His old home just north of Dunn's Crossroads was recently torn down. He owned about 350 acres and was operating a sawmill in 1841 in addition to his farming activities. He had a large family, and one of his sons was "the old doctor" William B. Batts

(Continued on page 69)

(William Batts, Sr., continued from page 68)
who lived in the southwestern outskirts of Elm City with his wife, the former Mary Winstead.
7. Benjamin Batts (1788-1842) was the only one of the children born in the present Wilson County. He went with his two older brothers to Robertson County, Tennessee in the 1804 migration. During the War of 1812 he served in Captain George W. Gibbs's Company, Second Regiment of West Tennessee Militia (or Volunteers), under the command of General Andrew Jackson. On July 19, 1816, the Red River Baptist Church took cognizance of the quarrel over the sale of a slave by Benjamin Batts to John Bell who was finally excommunicated on January 13, 1818. (Was it a mere coincidence that the witch began to torment the household of the prominent Bell family in 1817, and that John Bell expired after excruciating suffering on December 20, 1820?) Benjamin became a member of the Red River Church on November 16, 1822, but was himself excommunicated on March 19,1825, because of "a seeming contradiction in some statements that he has made at different times." At his death he left three slaves, 658 acres of land, and several children.

In 1923 William Calvin Batts, a former resident of Wilson, visited Robertson County and wrote that it "is called the Batts County, because they do so generally infest it. They spare nothing in the training of their children. They are to be found Judges, Lawyers, Doctors, Professors, Merchants. These qualities of character and business run in a point rather dominating the whole. Oh, yes. To be a Batts in Tennessee is to be reckoned."

WILLIE JORDAN BATTS' MEDICAL FORMULA

Excerpt from "*The Favorite Medical Formulas of Dr. Willie Jordan Batts, Esq., Wilson County's Notable Botanic Physician*

Hugh B. Johnston bound and contributed to the Wilson County Public Library a photocopy of the handwritten record of twenty-four of the formulas used by Dr. Willie Jordan Batts, herbalist. We include here one of his recipes.

How to Make Number Six, "one of the best medicines I ever used" for "internal pains and to prevent mortification outwards or inwards, " and for bruises, sprains, rheumatism.

How to make Number Six.

To make one gallon, take one pound of pulverized gummyrah 2 ounces cayann peper, put them in one gallon of fourth proof brandy or alcohall put it in a stone jug or dimmijon shake it well one or two times aday for three or four days, then let it settle, and it will be ready for use, it is good for bruises, sprains Reheumatism, and is also good for internal pains and to prevent mortification outwards or inwards it is one of the best medicine I ever used, put in an infection for extream pains in the bowells in cases of flux and all deseases where there is danger of mortification in the bowells, if you want to make one quart use one fourth of the artickles.

JOHN LAMM BIBLE

Published by Lippincott, Grambo & Co., Philadelphia, 1854

Contributed by Carroll Arthur

John Lamm Son of Abraham Lamm & Temperance his wife was born the ___ of ___ 1822
Blessing Lamm daughter of John Lamm and Pennioh his wife was born the 1th day of June 1861
Sindney Lamm daughter of John Lamm and his wife Pennioh was born the 6th of October 1863
Susanana Madory Lamm daughtery of John Lamm and his wife Pennioh was born the 20th of June 1867
John Woodard Lamm son of John Lamm & Pennioh his wife was born the 15th day of July 1870
Gorge M Davis son of Jeremiah Davis and Blesing his wife was Born Aug 6th, 1888
Mary Ella Davis daughter of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born April 30th 1891
Simon Davis son of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born March 17th 1893
Julia Ann Davis daughter of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born Jan. 23rd 1895
Nannie Davis daughter of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born Oct. 10th 1896
Fannie Davis daughter of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born Sept. 12th 1898
David Davis son of Jeremiah Davis and Blessing his wife was Born Sept. 23rd 1900

The following record was found in this Bible

January the 20 1864
Acount Against William Dew for work $5 Dollars dito to fish fish and meet $2 dollars paide cash $350 to one and 2 dolars paide money five dollars dito the to five dollars Paide one buck 45 cents to Shoues and flour $350 cents Paide $5 dollars in cash for runing land 3.50 cents to one gallon of molasses y5 cents Paide money $2 dollar to four 10 pounds & 60 cents to the making of one pear of hoes y5 cents

Working in the Shop 50 cents Six days work $45 cents for Books 30 cent. Work on the house 5 dollars to $5 Dollars cash Paide for Pork $23 dollars and 8 cents $25 dollars paide $10 Paid for wating and tenting four years

BELL WITCH LEGEND NOW A MOVIE

John Gerome, Associated Press Writer, wrote from Adams, Tennessee, about a new movie "An American Haunting" based on a well-documented haunting of the Bell family in the early nineteenth century near Red River, Tennessee. John Bell and his daughter Betsy were haunted by a spirit between 1817 and 1821. They believed that the spirit was the "witch" of Kate Batts retaliating for bad business dealings.

According to the legend, the events escalated from strange noises, to nuisance occurrences, to the poisoning of John Bell. Even General Andrew Jackson experienced some of the happenings.

Donald Sutherland plays John Bell, Sissy Spacek as Lucy Bell, and Rachel Hurd-Wood as Betsy Bell.

LIVING WITHOUT PA DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Ethan Evans, Community Christian School

For the "Young Scholar's Research Writing Contest," I have chosen to write a letter from the viewpoint of Joseph Bass, the fictional sixteen-year-old son of Private Jordan Bass, a true Wilson County native. Joseph Bass is a Wilson County resident during the late Civil War era of 1864-1865. Joseph tends the farm, helps at the local army hospital, and helps clear land for the James Davis house, now known as Miss Betty's Bed and Breakfast. His father, Jordan Bass, has served the Confederacy under the leadership of General Dorsey Pender who was killed in battle in July of 1863. Unknown to Joseph, his Pa is now serving under the leadership of General Robert E. Lee. Joseph has not seen his Pa in 2 years nor heard from him in 9 months. Joseph corresponds with him through letters.

Private Jordan Bass
Company B, 2nd Infantry Regiment
Chambersburg Pike in the Cashtown Gap

Dear Pa,

How is the war going? In your last letter, you said that your brigade had won a battle at Cedar Mountain and another at Fredericksburg. I have heard that we have won a few more skirmishes from the men here in the Wilson Army Hospital. There is news that Colonel William Lamb is building Fort Fisher in Wilmington and that it will be bigger than Fort Anderson and the Yankees will be unable to take it from the Confederacy. There is tension between the Confederate Navy and Army officers here in North Carolina as the Navy needs the railroad to ship iron to Richmond for plates to build the CSS Neuse in Kinston while the Army needs the rails for shipping supplies and Army troops.

Is General Dorsey Pender still leading your regiment in the fighting? I hear that he graduated from West Point and is an excellent leader, and that he rides in front of all his soldiers like a real man. Some people even say that since General Pender is from here in Wilson, there is no doubt that he is the best general in the South other than General Robert E. Lee.

I sure wish I was old enough to fight, why if Ma had someone else to take care of her, I'd up and find you so that we could fight right along side each other. Ma says the only bad part of the war is that everyday she's scared that you will get killed in battle. I tell her not to worry, that my Pa has a good head on his shoulders. I know you will remember Chaplain Drury Lacy who now works at the hospital. When he quotes from The Good Book about "a peace that passes all understanding" and how "perfect love casts out all fear," Ma seems to feel better.

Since I can't fight, I would like to become a doctor like Doctor Solomon Sampson Satchwell, so I can help with the war without worrying Ma. Doc Satchwell is real good at doctoring up the injured soldiers, and he asks about you when I go down to the hospital to watch and learn from him all that I can. He has even let me help with some of his rounds. Doc Satchwell says that the hospital is far too busy, since it is both a back-up hospital for the Virginian Army and the main army hospital for the Confederates fighting in North Carolina. He also says that if any more wounded soldiers come, he's going to have to either turn them away or ask the women to take them into their homes to care for them. Good thing we haven't had any smallpox or rubella here to take up Doc's time.

Ma and I are working real hard on the farm. We've planted corn, cotton, tobacco, and other vegetables. We've started to harvest the last of the tobacco. Ma has signed a petition asking Governor Zebulon Vance to let all the men from Wilson come home to help finish the harvesting. Fifty-two other womenfolk have signed it and it is being taken to Governor Vance. Since Governor Vance led the "Rough and Ready Guards" for over a year down around New Bern and in Richmond, he ought to be familiar with how low morale can be when the men are away for so long. There is a shortage of coffee, salt, and store bought meat. When Ma sells the corn, she plans to buy some cloth, a rifle for me, some salt, and coffee if we can find any.

I've learned to shoot real well with the old shotgun, but I think that I should learn how to shoot a rifle proper. Ma says I'm old enough now to start hunting meat for the house, but that shotgun is awful cumbersome in the woods and if you miss you do not get another chance 'cause the noise it makes scares everything off within a mile or two. Ma says that some venison stew would be real good.

In town, there is talk of Charles Deems opening up a military college here in Wilson for the boys of confederate soldiers who died in battle. I'm not sure who he is but the name sounds all fire familiar. I've also heard that General Stonewall Jackson died of battle wounds and pneumonia. I believe that is a serious blow for the Confederacy, but we need to keep on with the fight and finish what we've started. Some people have started to talk about us seceding from the Union and fighting against Mr. Lincoln and the Yankees. A few of the old timers are saying that those who are siding with Mr. Lincoln are doing so because they want some of the cheap land through The Homestead Act that Mr. Lincoln signed into law for the Union in 1862. I think they have just turned yeller and are scared of the fight. Ma don't like the war, but she says it had to happen and that a man should fight for what he believes is right, and that's what you're doing.

Have any men in your brigade deserted? I think that if you run from something you promised to do then you're a lying thief. They caught a deserter here about a week ago and they hung him in the old oak tree outside of town. Said he deserved it for running yeller, and since he promised to fight 'till the death but stopped fighting, they figured he wanted to be dead.

I think you remember that Mr. James Davis bought the plot of land on Nash Street about a mile North of the Wilson Courthouse. He paid me 50 cents for helping clear trees and brush. People say that he is going to build a very nice Victorian house. Dr. James Gorham is converting the Old Female Seminary on Goldsboro Street to a home. People call him Robert E. Lee since he looks so much like the General with his white hair and beard. General Joshua Barnes and Mrs.

(Continued on page 71)

May 30, 2006, Meeting of WCGS

The WCGS May meeting was held on the 30th in the genealogy room of the Wilson County Public Library. Sue Powell, our president welcomed members and guests. Business was brief with only a few announcements including the date of our next meeting which will be a covered dish supper at Spring Arbor on June 27, at 6:30 pm.

Jerry Stancil talked about locating graves of Civil War soldiers. He and his fellow members of the Pender SCV Camp are trying to locate all the graves in Wilson County. He talked about the use and accuracy of the GPS (Global Positioning System) in recording and searching for these sites. The Mt. Zion church program is the largest on going project at this time. He related the importance of finding family graves and recording them in our family records as the cemeteries are fast disappearing. His group is presenting Joan Howell a GPS for her use as she continues to locate graves and plans to publish Cemetery V in the future. They need help in the searches and suggested that the fall is a good time as there is less growth in the woods.

The program for the evening was organized by Joan Howell who asked our WCGS library volunteers to assist in explaining the availability in the library of the various programs used in researching. Joan explained the work being done on the family files. She is inventorying them and suggests that members bring into the library their individual family information. Family Bible recordings and pictures are extremely helpful.

Debra Webb explained the location of the various research materials in the room, talked about Heritage Quest and Ancestry, and gave us print outs of the room layout which is helpful for first time users. She made a plea for additional volunteers. There is a possibility that there might be a part time person hired to assist in the future.

Carroll Arthur told how to access the library catalogue at the library web site and explained how to use it while searching for the various records that are available for our use.

Monk Moore talked to us about the Heritage Quest site and gave suggestions on making searches more successful.

Joan, Carroll, and Monk are in the library each week offering their assistance to anybody in need of help in their family search and offer an invaluable service to the society, the library and to researchers who are encouraged to use all of the available resources. There is a need for other volunteers!

After the above made their presentations, we were encouraged to ask questions and seek help from them in the remaining time. We are grateful for their time in the library and want to thank them for that and for sharing an evening with the members while giving us a "hands on" demonstration.

Frances W. Roberson

SHARPE CORRECTION

Alma Sparkman has sent two corrections that should be made to *Trees* page 53 (May 2006).

William David Sharpe did not marry an Emily. He married Amanda Etheridge on January 23, 1867. The David who married Emily was a few years older than Elizabeth Taylor's son Wm David Sharpe who married Amanda Etheridge.

At the bottom on page 53, there was a typo. Where it says Thorpe it should be Sharpe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The Public History program at North Carolina State University is initiating a new records preservation project to assist churches throughout the state with conserving and preserving their historic records. Through a grant from the National Historic Publications and Records Commission, the North Carolina Church Records in Local History Project will provide organization and conservation of non-current records, production of finding aids for collections, regional workshops on church records and their roles in local history, and on-going consultation.

Please help relay this information to your local churches. The enrollment deadline is July 31, 2006. Interested churches should contact the project coordinator Craig T. Friend, Dept. of History, Campus Box 8108, NC State University, Raleigh NC 27695-8108, ctfriend@social.chass.ncsu.edu (please put "church project" in subject line), phone 919-513-2227, fax 919-515-3886

• A new publication, *The 55th North Carolina in the Civil War: A History and Roster,* by Jeff Girvan, is available for purchase at www.mcfarlandpub.com or Amazon.com. Company A of the 55th Regiment was formed in Wilson and Wayne Counties.

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

GENEALOGY

Genealogy begins as an interest,
Becomes a hobby;
Continues as an avocation,
Takes over as an obsession,
And in its last stages,
Is an incurable disease.

The Sunny Side of Genealogy

[In which stage do you find yourself?]

(Jordan Bass Letter, Continued from page 70)

Matilda spoke fondly of you. People still talk about how he got Wilson County established in 1855. I forgot to tell you in my last letter that Mr. W. G. Jordan made a motion that passed with the rest of the Board of Commissioners to put a five dollar fine a day tax on every goat that was running at large in town after July 4 last year. Also the Commissioners voted to move the horse rack on Nash Street to the Courthouse Square.

I hope we win the war soon so you can come home, and President Jefferson Davis can straighten out those Yankees. It's kind of hard growing up without a Pa around to teach things you need to know. Are the winters as brutally cold as I hear from the soldiers in the hospital? I sure hope that you're takin care of yourself and being a pain in the hide to those Yankees. I'm proud to be your son, Pa, and I hope to make you proud of me.

Joseph Bass
Aug. 16, 1864

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County
Genealogical Society
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Barnes, Batts, Connor, Lamm and others

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___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
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___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00 (tax included) **NEW**

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___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4 $5.00
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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

August 2006 **Volume 15 Number 7**

President's Message

To paraphrase Robert Burns, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go astray." We set our plans and goals and strive to accomplish them. Then unforeseen events happen that throw those goals into turmoil.

This has happened to the publication of our book *Founding Families of Wilson County.* The editors, my husband and yours truly, have been dealing with health issues all of this calendar year. He was hospitalized for five weeks in the spring with polyneuropathy and has undergone weeks of physical therapy. While he is getting stronger, he remains unable to walk. I have been the sole care-giver, and only those who have been in that role can understand the time that it takes.

Needless to say, we have not had the time to devote to the book that we did before these health issues began. The work has not come to a halt; rather I have worked on it in small snatches of time. Progress has been very slow; however, we begin to see a light at the end of the tunnel (for the book, not for Henry).

The final "sweep" for additional information on the origins of the families from the contributed material is about half completed. Then the entire book must be proofread and then indexed. The latter will be a very time consuming process.

We would not want to give an anticipated completion date at this time; however, barring additional health issues, we hope that the book will go to press by year's end.

We apologize for the long delay and appreciate your patience. We assure you that the book will be well worth the wait and hope that you will agree when you receive yours.

Sue Powell

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Our next meeting will be September 26, 2006. (We do not meet in August!) The speaker for September will be Sarah Koontz, Head of the Collections Management Branch of the North Carolina Archives and Records Section, who will speak on the preservation of records. Nominations of officers for 2007 will be announced, and nominations may be made from the floor.

On October 31, 2006, Keith Barnes, author and photo journalist with *Wilson Daily Times*, will speak about the history of the tobacco industry in Wilson County and his soon to be published book documenting it, *World's Greatest Market.* Officers for 2007 will be elected.

On November 28, 2006, we will have our annual meeting at which time the new officers for 2007 will be installed and annual reports will be made. We will also have a "show and tell" program, so you may want to began thinking about what family artifact or local "treasure" you will bring to show.

On January 30, 2007, Betty McCain, former North Carolina Secretary of Cultural Resources, will speak to us about "Religious Immigration."

Mark your calendars now! These programs will be informative and will tell us more about our ancestor's lives and help us understand the fabric of their communities.

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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON

Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them. [Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We started this series of letters in the May issue and will continue the letters in future issues of *Trees.*]

Wilson, N. C.
Oct. 14, 1898

Dear Nip:

… Speaking of Clyde Covington, the former captain of the Blacksburg Base Ball Team, lives here. He roomed just across from Clyde, and was quite fond of him. He plays tennis with us sometimes …

A new class at school gives me additional work—and pleasure. Physics is attractive anyway, and here everything is favorable. I have a good class, there is already considerable apparatus and the Board authorizes me to get such other as I need (in a small way), and the Supt. has furnished me a number of interesting text books. Such a course has never been taught here and I expect to find myself famous(?).

Sunday I am to make the anniversary address before our Ladies' Missionary Union. The thing has been so advertised that I must do my best; so tonight and tomorrow I shall be "hard at it." For some reason I am a trifle apprehensive.

Wednesday at school we had a flag

(Continued on page 74)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 73)

raising by the Jr. Order of U. A. Mechanics. We at the school had spent considerable time practicing the marches and patriotic songs. The address was by Rev. C. A. G. Thomas, an able but eccentric Bapt. Preacher. Of course, a Bible was presented along with the flag. The speech was able, the marching and songs elicited much favorable comment, and the whole affair was quite a success. Mangum is patriotic, and keeps the children aroused on American History and especially that of the South.

… Supper bell has rung and I'm anxious to warm up on something. I feel as if I were sitting on the North pole and making ice-cream.

Your Bro.
C. C. C

- - - - -

Wilson, N. C.
Oct. 27, '98

Dear Nip:

I write to ask you to send me the gloves I loaned you this summer, and also the set of copies for Vertical Writing I showed you as a good style to copy.

Today has been "fool's day," if ever there was one. The Democrats had a big rally and barbecue today. In one of the hardest rains I ever saw they were marching afoot, or horseback, and in vehicles, yelling themselves hoarse, and getting gloriously drunk. Two or three of this family are sick already. The barbecue I hear was a big success. There were chickens, turkeys, hogs, sheep, etc. One-hundred-and-twenty sheep and fifteen-hundred loaves of bread, for instance. The school board foolishly gave a holiday, so today I have had leisure to read to my heart's desire. …

Your Brother,
C. C. C.

OBITUARIES
Wilson Daily Times, December 24, 1918

MRS P. B. LANCASTER

Mrs. D. F. Scott received the sad intelligence today of the death of her stepmother, Mrs. P. B. Lancaster near Goldsboro. The funeral was held Sunday from the residence by her pastor, Rev. Addison Bronson and Rev. Royal Cox of the Church of the Friends of which she was a faithful member. She was highly esteemed and beloved by all her children.

MEMORIAL SERVICES TOMORROW

Memorial Services will be held tomorrow afternoon at three o'clock in the Methodist Church in Black Creek in honor of Mr. J. Millard Pearson who died in the service of his county. Rev. Mr. Stanbury pastor of the Methodist church of this city presiding.

NEW BOOKS IN WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- *Order of First Families of North Carolina, Registry of Ancestors, Vol. I,* compiled by John A. Brayton
- *A Collection of Notes on the Proctor Family,* compiled by Hugh B. Johnston
- *Manning/Taylor Family History,* compiled by Betty Manning, from the collection of Frances Manning
- *Toole/Irwin Story,* compiled by J. Edward Allen
- *Thompson of Robeson County,* prepared by Ruth Smith Williams
- *The Thompsons of Robeson County,* compiled by Parana Hammond

A TERRIBLE AUTO ACCIDENT

Wilson Daily Times, December 24, 1918

Three People Dead as the Result of Train Crashing Into Car

Norfolk Southern R. R.

Sometime about midnight last night a terrible and fatal accident occurred at the Tarboro street crossing of the Norfolk & Southern railroad when the eastbound 11:30 train while backing out from the station to continue its course towards Norfolk ran into an automobile, the property of Mrs. J. T. Flowers who lives about six miles west of this city. As a result Mrs. J. T. Flowers, her daughter Laura and her son-in-law, Mr. Harvey Harrison all the occupants of the car are dead the train striking the machine about the front wheels smashing it to pieces, grinding it up and dragging it about fifty yards, while the bodies of the occupants of the car are badly mangled and broken.

Mrs. Flowers and Mr. Harrison came to Wilson yesterday morning and took the ten o'clock train for Raleigh where they met Miss Laura who has been away to school, in order to meet her and accompany her home for the holidays. They met her in Raleigh and took the same train out of Raleigh last night about 9:30 which caused their death. Arriving in Wilson they secured their car and started for home and in the meantime the train had unloaded its passengers and freight and started on its trip with above disastrous results.

Mrs. Flowers is the widow of the late John T. Flowers and is highly esteemed by all who know her. Since the death of her husband she has managed his business in such a way as to add greatly to what he left. She has paid off all his debts and he left many on account of the large purchase of land.

She leaves several children, one of them the wife of Mr. Harrison who was killed. The bodies were taken to a local hospital. Mrs. Flowers and her daughter died with in an hour after being taken to the hospital, while Mr. Harrison lived about five hours. All were conscious up until the time of their death.

The remains were taken to their late home this morning and the interment will be made tomorrow afternoon. It is probable that Elder Geo. W. Boswell will conduct the funeral services.

The circumstances is more than sad because Mrs. Flowers leaves at her home two little boys about 8 and 10 years of age.

[Editor's note: W. H. (Harvey) Harrison, farmer, son of William Henry Harrison and his wife Martha Ann Thorne, was born in 1896 and died December 21, 1918 as the result of "crushing of legs by RR train in collision with auto."

William Henry Harrison, farmer, son of Jethro and Nancy Willliamson Harrison, was born January 3, 1861, died March 27, 1946, at Woodard Herring Hospital in Wilson. He married Susan Taylor on January 4, 1880, and they had two children: Dempsey and Sudie. William Henry Harrison and Martha Ann Thorne were married February 10, 1884. They had twelve children: Richard, Lula, Mamie, Oscar, Harvey, James Walter, Bessie, Flonnie, Eva, Ethel, Pearl, and Beulah.

Jethro Harrison, born c. 1829, married Nancy Williamson, born c. 1832, daughter of Sallie Williamson, on December 15, 1853, in Nash County. They had two children: William Henry and Sidney E. (born 1858, married Turner Barnes about 1881). Nancy was dead when Jethro died from being thrown from a horse at about age 35. The two children were reared by Dempsey and Christian Harrison (Jethro's brother and his wife who was also Nancy's sister).]

JUST ONE YEAR AGO.

Just one year ago last night if our memory serves us right Mr. Joseph Harrison and his wife and son were pinioned under a train on the Coast line and stayed there two hours before being released. These three were in an automobile. Mrs. Harrison was the only one who escaped injury.

The experience of last night demonstrates that we need gates at the Goldsboro and Tarboro street crossings where the view is nearly always impaired by obstructions.

[Editor's note: Joseph Sanders Harrison, born September 16, 1868, died December 21, 1917, was also a son of William Henry Harrison; however, they were not known to be related to Harvey Harrison's family. Joseph's mother was Martha Barfield. Henry and Martha lived in Greene County in 1850 and later in the Stantonsburg area of Wilson County. Joseph married first Florence Elizabeth Whitley, and they had one child Florence Elizabeth, born 1896. Joseph Harrison married Eva Elizabeth Johnson, born November 17, 1874, daughter of John Warren Johnson and his wife Catherine Ellis, on January 1, 1899, in Stantonsburg. Joseph and "Bet" had five children: Luther, Martha (born 1902), Margaret (born 1903-1912), Sarah (born 1906), and Josie (born 1910).

Joseph and Luther died in the train-automobile wreck. Family oral history is that a freight car rolled into the family car as they were crossing the tracks on their way home after Christmas shopping. The railroad accepted responsibility for the accident and made cash settlements to the surviving members of the family.]

Left: William Henry Harrison holding Harvey Harrison, Oscar Harrison, Bessie Harrison, and Martha Ann Harrison.

Right: Luther Edwin Harrison, born September 28, 1899, died December 21, 1917.

ELIAS G. BARNES

Wilson Daily Times, October 15, 1913

Edited by F. D. Swindell

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Ever since the days of Captain John Smith and Mademoiselle Pocahontas, who unfortunately lived a few centuries previous to the inauguration of the cinematograph, the inhabitants of the territory immediately adjacent and just north of Tar Heel jurisdiction, have been making the boast they were about the best folks on this side of the Atlantic. The balance of the country has never earnestly concurred in the Virginia opinion but being a peace loving country and having a sense of humor withal, has never troubled to dispute the statement.

Pretty soon after Virginia had whipped England and won independence for all of us, three brothers by the good old English name of Barnes put down their muskets, and shouldering their hoes, bade farewell to the commonwealth. These three adventurous gentlemen trailed the coast line southward and finally landed in eastern North Carolina. Little is known about them save that they began the good work against race suicide which has resulted in the population of what is now Wilson, Wayne and Nash counties with a multitude of Barnes', a multitude that would have made Father Abraham envious.

Enter the Squire

The grandson of one of the three original Barnes was named Asa. He was born and raised in Wayne county, married Miss Bethany Fulgham, of the same county and soon afterwards, becoming affected with a touch of the wanderlust, gathered up his goods and chattels, household gods [goods] and lovely young frau, and wandered over into the Buckhorn section of this county.

Asa and Bethany did many good things during the course of their lives, not the least of which was the bringing into the world of a lad who is well known to us by the biblical and euphonious names of Elias.

As a youth Elias may have been good but since only Council Keen, Henry Rentfrow and Ransome Hinnant are left to testify to this fact, and all of these gentlemen are reticent on the subject, we will not insist upon it. However that may be, from the 17th day of January, 1835 until the present time, Elias has borne "right smart" of a reputation for being the rightest kind of the right sort.

In 1855, about the time that Elias was treading the primrose path of youthful bliss as exemplified in quilting parties, corn shuckings, where the red ears were plentiful and the lassies good to look upon, and glorious evenings neath the harvest moon, papa Asa went to the legislature and helped to relieve Johnson and Edgecomb and other counties of enough territory to form Wilson.

Where the G. Came In.

The young Elias managed fairly well to live through his teens as Elias Barnes, merely this and nothing more. But when the twenties hove in sight and he had absorbed sufficient knowledge of the art of spooning to recognize its attractiveness, he suddenly began to take notice of the fact that Uncle Sam's mail clerks had an unfortunate habit of confusing him with his uncle Elias and uncle Elias with him. We may never truly know the dilemmas, thus brought about, but that there were dilemmas we can safely infer from the celerity with which young Elias hunted him up a middle name. We say name too hastily for it really wasn't a name after all, it was merely a letter, a noncommittal, easily shaped and yet dignified letter–top heavy in script and wearing a slight grottee in print–the letter G.

Family.

Today Squire (for all of us call him that) is the last of his clan, at least of those who made up the clan of his own generation. William, John, Simon and Henry, his four brothers are all dead. His two sisters, Zilpha, who married Merritt Rentfrow, and Sarah, who married Newit Godwin, are also dead. His own family, however, is not threatened with extinction, for although his son Augustus is dead he has three children and innumerable grandchildren living. His daughter Roxana, the wife of Dr. L. G. Broughton, lives way over in London it is true and Roscoe, his son in Washington, N. C., a place equally as out of the way as London, but Elseph, the better half of Thee Hinnant, and all the little Hinnants dwell, abide, live and remain right here in Wilson. Baby Hinnant, it is said, in addition to being adorable is also some class as a tyrant, that is when it comes to tyrannizing it over the old Squire.

Occupations.

Squire very fortunately climbed into young manhood at a time when lawyers and doctors were not so plentiful. He thus escaped much misery, for it must be admitted that Elias G. had a hankering after the professional life. He got one foot into the ministry, and while he has never been able to withdraw this foot he has never ventured further. The next most likely occupation was that of teaching. He had drunk deeply of the wells of learning under Prof. D. S. Richardson, who dealt out fractions, Webster and Gaellic war history, in a school situated on the lot where Dr. Dickinson now lives and had also attended the Morning Sun Academy near Raleigh. We confess a great admiration for that name. It sounds so promising and brilliant. It did to Squire. It set his imagination to buzzing and his youthful ambition on fire.

Any way from 1857 to 1860 Professor Elias G. Barnes developed his biceps with ferule and hickory switch exercises and wrought prodigiously at the science of pedagogy.

Other Facts of Interest.

Shortly after the tempestuous citizens of Charleston precipitated hostilities between the north and the south and before the yankees did that rather confused but very sincere Marathon dash from Bull Run, Elias G. waxed beligerent, and was elected a militia officer in the home guard. He was retained in the home guard throughout the war and so prevented from sharing the danger and honor of the Virginia campaigns. He consoled himself of this deprivation by courting and marrying the beautiful Miss Harriet Kent. This was on October 10, 1862.

After the war our ex-militia officer chased the long green through the avenues of a store, a farm and a turpentine distillery. There is no very strong suggestion that said distillery even savored of sour mash.

In 1867 he was lured back into teaching, and this, with

(Continued on page 77)

(Elias G. Barnes, Continued from page 76)
farming as a side line, he continued until 1905, although from 1892 until 1905 he broke the monotony of the class room and the furrow by dealing out justice to recalcitrant citizens as a magistrate and mayor of Kenly.

In 1905 he moved into the town of Wilson and into the hearts of most of us who know him.

Squire–J. P. and Citizen.

On any warm, sunshiny day (which we admit is a provincial way of describing things but meets with local favor) if you will stroll around in the vicinity of the court house you will see a group of contented looking old gentlemen occupying chairs and benches on the courthouse green just in front of the office building. Now if you stop and observe the [scene] and you generally will, you will behold a medium sized, rather sle___ and modest looking lad of 70 years peacefully passing the time away to the tune of a "chaw" of tobacco–very slowly and deliberately "chawed"–and reminiscent conversation. You cannot mistake the man. He has the dignity of a Roman senator, set off by grayish hair, which isn't as luxuriant around the temple as formerly, and a brow that would have made pap Nestor uneasy about his copyright or patent, or whichever it was. Before you approach close enough to get a glance from his kindly blue eyes you will notice a hirsute adornment on his chin, the kind of adornment rarely found now-a-days except on the cover of magazines ___ in the heart of the tall timber district far from the madding crowd ___ new fangled safety razors ___ fruitage of chin whiskers is ___ whim of vanity, it is a badge of ___ce, immemorially signalizing worship, the Justice of the Peace.

Squire, for that is the man, is a sui__ enough J. P. one of the old line sort. The sort, you know, who deal out home made justice to turbulent mortals and settle litigatory disputes after a standard of good common sense that the Supreme court has not yet attained to.

Squire possesses another characteristic which has proven valuable in his line of work. He is A 1 pacifier, soother of ruffled tempers, a soft p__al for turbulence and tempestuousness, a peerless adjuster of differences.

When you try your case before the Squire you can count on four things, viz., he will listen at you patiently, will preceed his judgment with a long winded lecture on things in general and your case in particular, in a mild drawly voice, seldom omitting to refer to his former administration of the law in Kenly; will decide the case according to his conscience and not the law, and lastly and most certainly he will collect the cost.

Squire, the citizen, is all to the good. He is square, frank, fearless and determined. He voted for Buchanan in 18__ and has consistently honored the Democratic ballot ever since, a habit he will continue until he can vote no more.

Squire, the man, is kindly, gentle, charitable and friendly. He can travel along with George Washington when it comes to the question of veracity, he has not been detected in susp___ familiarity with the cup "that ___ today of past regrets and future ___ for 30 years, which is some record ___ the water wagon. He avoids all ___ orean indulgencies, especially ___ bunny hug and turkey trot and regards poker and crap with unb___ aversion.

In conclusion we will add [that] Squire is the sort of man we are ___ to have among us, the strong, h___ and long headed type of citizen w___ of incalculable service to his community.

[Editor's note: Part of the right of the last column of the article was missing.]

ELIAS G. BARNES OBITUARY

Wilson Daily Times, Janury 23, 1917

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

ELIAS G. BARNES

Our heart is bowed in sorrow today for our good friend and one of the most loveable man we ever knew is no more, as far as this earth is concerned, but we feel sure that his activities are transferred to the land of the blest, that his many good works have followed him and that he rests under the shade of the tree.

In the heart of Mr. E. G. Barnes there rested the milk of human kindness, his life was as sweet and as clean as that of the babe, and he loved the people and they loved him.

Many a pleasant moment have we spent with him. His kindly, fatherly admonition, his gentle manners, his splendid disposition appealed to us, and we loved him for his friendship. We admired his genial, wholesouled generosity towards the frailties of humanity. We were pleased at his desire to uplift humanity, and in the decisions of his court and the way he tempered justice with mercy, believing there was a spark of goodness in every man and that the proper cultivation would bring it out, were all qualities that made him a power in this community.

The death of Mr. Barnes came as a shock to his friends and relatives for he had sufficiently recovered from an illness of about a week, to walk about and was on the street with his nurse on Saturday. Yesterday morning, however, he became worse and died suddenly about 8:45 a.m.

Elias G. Barnes, son of Asa and Bethany Fulghum Barnes, of Wayne County, North Carolina, was born in that county on the 17th day of January, 1835. He is therefore 82 years old. He received a school education under Pro. D. S. Richardson and a high school course at The Morning Sun Academy near Raleigh. During the war he served as an officer in the home guard. On October 10th, 1862 he married Harriet Kent. From 1865 until 1867 he was engaged in farming and in the mercantile business but in the latter year he began teaching school and continued in that profession for many years. In 1892 until 1905 he served as a magistrate and, a part of the time, a mayor of the town of Kenly. In 1905 he moved to Wilson and since …

[Editor's note: The remainder of the article was missing.

In 1880, Elias G. Barnes, age 45, farmer, and his wife Harriet, age 40, lived in Springhill Township. Their children Roxey, age 16; Rosco, age 11; Elisa, age 7; and Atettle, age 5; lived with them. The three youngest children were ill with whooping cough, and Atettle also had measles.

Roxanna married Dr. L. C. Broughton on October 9, 1885.]

HENRY HORNE

Hugh B. Johnston files

Henry Horn was born on November 21, 1716, and died early in February, 1798, in Wayne County, North Carolina. In 1737 he married Ann Purcell who was born on April 1, 1723, and died after 1776. His second wife, Patience _____, survived him.[1] In 1754 he moved to Edgecombe County and in 1777 to Wayne County.

On May 1, 1754, Henry Horn patented 330 acres in Edgecombe County on Compass Creek and the South Prong.[2] On May 1, 1754, he patented 384 acres on Compass Creek adjoining Skinner and his own line.[3] (Purchase August 7, 1756 [handwritten insertion].) On February 10, 1755, Henry Horn and John Glass witnessed the deed of Mary Stevenson to William Stevenson in Northampton County.[3A]

In 1760 Henry patented 425 acres on both sides of Poplar Branch in Johnson County.[4] On November 3, 1761, he patented 652 acres in Edgecombe County adjoining Thomas Exum and John Speight.[5]

On December 21, 1761, Henry Horn of Edgecombe County deeded to his son William Horn of the same for £50 Virginia money 200 acres north of Tar River, witnessed by Isaac Horn, Joseph Pittman, and John Page.[6] On April 24, 1764, Henry Horn deeded to William Horn for £15 Virginia money 66 acres north of Stony Creek adjoining William West.[7] On August 4, 1768, Francis (x) Jenkins alias Rogers of Edgecombe County sold Henry Horn for £25 Virginia money 320 acres adjoining Henry Horn, Compass Creek, Prevet's Branch, Jacob Whitehead and George Harrell; witnessed by William Horn, John Hicks, and Wilson Curll.[8] On September 25, 1770, George Harrell sold Henry Horn for £29 Virginia money 200 acres north of Compass Creek adjoining Exum, witnessed by William Horn, Jacob Dickinson, and Sherwood Haywood.[9]

Henry Horn became a Quaker prior to February 7, 1759, when the Perquimans Monthly Meeting recommended him as a Quaker Minister. On May 2, 1761, Henry and Ann Horn were chosen Overseers of the Tar River Meeting in Edgecombe County. On March 1, 1762, he was recommended as a Minister at the Tar River Meeting. On November 19, 1774, a Quarterly Meeting at Rich Square took under consideration the charge that Henry Horn had not condemned his daughter's marriage to a non-Quaker in his own home on Tar River. Henry and Ann Horn were disowned by the Rich Square Monthly Meeting on June 7, 1775, and again on February 17, 1776.[10]

On May 25, 1772, Henry Horn sold Henry Watkins for £10 Virginia money 100 acres from the 325 bought from Jenkins in 1768 adjoining Wilson Curll and Compass Creek; witnessed by Joel Horne and John Moore.[11] On November 24, 1772, Ebenezer and Elizabeth Folsom sold Henry Horn, Sr., of Edgecombe County, for £130 Proclamation Money two tracts totaling 700 acres adjoining Robert Young, Whitehead's Mill Swamp, the Creek, Reedy Branch, Pocoson Branch, Isaac Hilliard and Little Pig Basket Branch; witnessed by William Horn, Elisha Battle, Jr., and Henry Irwin.[12]

The D. A. R. Patriot Index lists him (p. 343) for Patriotic Service.

On September 27, 1777, Henry Horn, Sr., was living in Dobbs (now Wayne) County and paid John (I) Faulk, Jr., of 96 District in South Carolina, £90 Proclamation Money for 200 acres south of Contentnea Creek in Dobbs County adjoining Francis Rountree, it being a patent to Abraham Sheppard on April 18, 1745; witnessed by Thomas Horn, Thomas (T) Waters, and John (I) Pearce.[13] On March 25, 1785, Henry Horn of Wayne County, Planter, sold Joseph White, Sr., of Nash County, Planter, for $400.00 in silver 450 acres adjoining Robert Young, Whitehead's Mill Swamp, the widow Thomas, head of southwest Prong of Reedy Branch and Pocoson Branch; also, 150 acres adjoining the above tract and bounded by Isaac Hilliard, Pocoson Branch, and Little Pigbasket (the Folsom tract) in Nash County; witnessed by John Bond, David Pridgen, and Redmon Bunn.[14]

The Wayne County Tax List for 1786 recorded that Henry Horn had one white poll, seven slaves, and 1,290 acres of land.

On April 7, 1786, James Cobb of Wayne County sold Henry Horn of Wayne County for £8.0.9 a tract of 200 acres adjoining the said Horn and Benjamin Cobb; witnessed by Nathan Cobb and William Hackney.[15] On September 30, 1786, Robert Simms, Sr., sold Henry Horn for £40 in specie money 200 acres on both sides of Great Cabin Branch including where Thomas Wiggins now lives; witnessed by Thomas Horn, Thomas Wiggins, Robert Coleman, and John Sanders.[16] On August 11, 1789, Henry (H) Horn of Wayne County sold Isaac Hilliard of Nash County for £67.10.0 in specie money 150 acres on Whitehead's Mill Swamp adjoining Reedy Branch and Joseph White (bought from Ebenezer Folsom "whereon Mary Thomas lived and deceas.[d]"); witnessed by Thomas Horn, William Boddie, and Etheldred Taylor.[17]

In the Wayne County Census of 1790, Henry Horn was listed with one male over sixteen, one male under sixteen, five females, and five slaves.[18] On July 23, 1790, Henry Horn sold Jeremiah Horn of Wayne County for £20 a tract of 600 acres in two tracts south of Contentnea Creek adjoining Thomas Horn and Abraham Sheppard's old patent line, witnessed by Thomas Horn and Obedience (x) Horn.[19] On July 30, 1790, Henry Horn of Wayne County deeded to Joel Horn of Edgecombe County for love 425 acres where said Joel was living north of Tar River adjoining Cool Spring Gut, Hardy Harris, Kirby's Creek, and Isaac Horn, deceased; witnessed by Thomas Horn, Jeremiah Horn, and Cornelius Jordan.[20] On March 24, 1794, Henry Horn and Thomas Wiggins of Wayne County deeded to Thomas Horn of Wayne County for £45 in Virginia currency 320 acres on Long Branch adjoining James Rentfrow (formerly Ann Hawley's line), Miry Branch, and Jeremiah Bailey; witnessed by Abishai Horn, Jeremiah Horn, and Abel Horn.[21]

Henry Horn made his will in Wayne County on March 30, 1797 and it was probated in April Court, 1798: (a) wife Patience Horn, featherbed and furnishings, black mare, hunting saddle, bridle, 2 young cows with calves, sow with three pigs, small pine chest, 6 earthen plates, 2 cups, 4 bowls, 2 basins, 2 dishes, 6 pewter plates, 2 silver spoons, table and

(Continued on Page 79)

(Henry Horne, continued from page 78)
tea spoons, 2 iron pots, frying pan, cotton wheel, pair of cards, tub, pail, piggin, 3 sitting chairs, small pine table, case of knives and forks, 6 pewter spoons; use of the plantation bought from Richard Foulke; (b) son William Horn, one shilling; (c) daughter Easter, ditto; (d) son Isaac Horn, ditto; (e) son Henry Horn, ditto; (f) son Joel Horn, ditto; (g) daughter Charity, ditto; (h) daughter Damaris, ditto; (I) daughter Mourning, £10.0.0 current money; (j) daughter Phebe, ditto; (k) daughter Selah, ditto; (l) grandson Josiah Horn, land north of Tar River above Kirby's Creek where he now lives; (m) freedom to slaves Will and Jude, with 2 cows and 2 sows with pigs; (n) the other five slaves not to be sold by my executors, and "if at any time the laws of our Country will admit of their freedom, then they shall be free"; (o) son and executor Jacob Horn, reversional interest in a third of the Foulke plantation and of the residue; (p) son and executor Thomas Horn, ditto: (q) son and executor Jeremiah Horn, ditto, and also the Wiggins place; and (r) witnesses Jesse Parker, John Doudna, and Sarah Doudaa.[22]

On March 2, 1798, the inventory of the personal property of the late Henry Horn was taken in Wayne County by Jacob Horn, Thomas Horn, and Jeremiah Horn.[23] The original document still survives and may be seen in the North Carolina State Department of Archives at Raleigh, listing the following items; 2 horses, 22 cattle, 13 hogs, 3 sows with pigs, 8 sheep, 7 slaves; loom and its gear, cotton wheel, flax wheel, 3 pairs of cards, and a hackle; wearing apparel, large Bible some other books, razor and strop and hone, man's saddle, woman's saddle, pair of saddle bags, 2 bridles, pair of money scales, $39.00 in money; 4 feather beds, 4 bedsteads with cords and mats, 2 rugs, 3 blankets, 2 coverlets, 18 sheets, 6 table cloths, set of curtains, 2 pillows, large walnut chest, small pine chest, table, 3 armchairs, 9 common sitting chairs, safe, 2 trunks, 2 cases with some bottles, looking glass, chamber pot, 2 candlesticks, pair of snuffers, shovel, tongs, poker, ink holder; tole dish, 15 punch bowls, mug, 5 cups, 6 tumblers, dram glass, wine glass, set of cups and saucers, 2 sugar dishes, milk pot, soup tureen, water bottle, tin coffee pot, 3 earthen tea pots, cruet, 2 butter pots, 12 earthen plates, 19 pewter plates, 7 pewter dishes, 2 earthen dishes, lanthorn, 4 silver table spoons, 3 silver tea spoons, 12 pewter table spoons, 7 pewter basins, case of knives and forks, 2 tin cups, pepper box, salt cellar; 2 gums, 4 baskets, 3 hogsheads, 3 barrels, brandy still, parcel of cotton, some bacon, some corn, "old chest & fat & gourds & soap," side of leather, cow hide, 2 old barrels and some peas; tub, 2 pails, piggin, tray, can, Keiler, half-bushel, 6 jugs, 4 quart bottles, 3 pint bottles, half-pint bottle, bottle and some sweet oil, large copper kettle, small brass kettle, iron tea kettle, 4 iron pots, 2 potracks, 2 frying pans, griddle, flesh forks, iron spoon, 3 pothooks, Dutch oven, iron skillet, bell metal skillet, coffee mill, spice mortar, padlock, meal sifter, old irons, pair of spoonmolds, box iron, tin funnel, 2 bells, meal bag, grater, candle mold; spade, 2 broad hoes, grubbing hoe, 2 plowhoes, cutter, 4 axes, frow(?) part of a digging axe, claw-hammer, 2 chisels, cooper's adze, cross-saw, iron wedge, wheat riddle, sand sifter, grindstone, ox chain, some small chains, 2 augers, pair of cooper's compasses, 3 pairs of steelyards, some nails and saddle tacks, box rule, gimlet, and awl.[24]

CHILDREN OF HENRY AND ANN PURSELL HORN

1. William Horn was born on March 30, 1738, married Celia Richardson at Perquimans Monthly Meeting. She died December 1, 1760.
   a. Nathan Horn, born April 9, 1759, died January 16, 1760.
   William married 2nd Mary Thomas, daughter of Joseph Thomas and wife Mourning Pope of Nash County, on July 20, 1761.
   a. Priscilla Horn, born May 20, 1762
   b. Milberry Horn, born December 4, 1764
   William married 3rd Sarah Granberry, widow of Samuel Granberry, on September 3, 1779. He married 4th Sally Norfleet, daughter of James Norfleet and wife Mary Battle. She had been married previously to Elias Hilliard.
2. Esther Horn was born on April 6, 1740, married Andrew Ross, reported March 7, 1759. She married 2nd John Ricks July 13, 1762.
3. Isaac Horn was born on May 7, 1742. He married Edith Richardson, daughter of Thomas and Phebe Richardson, at Rich Square Monthly Meeting. He died 1781.
   a. Nathanie "Nathan" Horn, born May 27, 1762
   b. Rhoda Horn, born 1764
   c. Jacob Horn, born 1768
   d. Mary Horn, born 1770
   e. ?Josiah Horn, born 1766
4. Henry Horn, Jr., was born on June 10, 1744, died February 5, 1785. Prior to January 1, 1775, he married Sarah Battle, daughter of Elisha Battle and wife Elizabeth Sumner of Tar River. She had been married previously to Jacob Hilliard.
   a. Piety, born December 10, 1767, married Josiah Fort, son of Elias and Sarah Fort of Edgecombe County. They settled in Robertson County, Tennessee. Piety died November 27, 1815.
   b. Charity Horn, born October 29, 1769. She married 1st Burrel Bunn, 2nd Isaac Vick of Nash County. Charity died October 26, 1808.
   c. Celia Horn, born February 21, 1779, married 1st Lemuel Sugg, 2nd Josiah Fort after the death of her sister Piety
   d. Henry Horn (III), born in 1785
5. Jacob Horn was born on March 10, 1747/48, died September 22, 1826, about three miles east of Wilson, North Carolina. He married 1st out of the Quaker faith.
   a. John, born September 14, 1776
   b. Edith, born in 1778
   c. William, born in 1780
   Jacob married 2nd Millicent Thomas, daughter of the Reverend John Thomas, Jr., and his wife Patience Williams.
   a. Millicent Horn, married Joseph Farmer of Edgecombe County
   b. Thomas Horn, born in 1784
   c. Patience, married an Armistead
   d. Mourning
   e. Henry Horn, born in 1790
   f. Jeremiah Horn, born October 21, 1793

(Continued on page 80)

(Henry Horne, continued from page 79)

g. Rev. Dr. Josiah Robert Horn, born in 1797

6. Mourning Horn was born on March 10, 1747/48. On March 17, 1768, she married out of the Quaker Society. She may have married Wilson Curle (will 1802, Montgomery County, Tenn.)
   a. William Curl born 1779. (descendant. Mrs. Ruby R. Neilson, 1017 Balmoral, Tyler, Texas 75703).
7. Phebe Horn was born on September 14, 1749, married James Ricks, son of Isaac and Sarah Ricks of Edgecombe County, on September 29, 1770.
   a. Charity Ricks married Elder Nathan Green Gilbert, son of Jesse Gilbert of Nash County
   b. Ann Ricks married Abishai Horn of Edgecombe County
8. Joel Horn was born on August 14, 1751. It is believed that his 1st wife was Ann Horn, daughter of Amos Harris of Southampton County, Virginia.
   a. Harris Horn, born February 5, 1778
   b. Howell Horn, born November 1, 1780
   c. Hardy Horn, born December 24, 1782
   d. Milbrie Horn, born February 14, 1786
   e. Rebecca Horn, born March 18, 1788
   Joel's 2nd wife was Sarah Phillips, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Phillips of Edgecombe County.
   a. Mathew Horn, born June 11, 1792
   b. Etheldred Horn, born November 27, 1793
9. Thomas Horn was born on March 24, 1753, died about 1809 in Wayne (now Wilson) County. He married Celia Vick, perhaps the daughter of Richard and Ann Vick.
   a. Anne Horn, born December 25, 1771, married Jesse Parker
   b. Abel Horn, born December 27, 1773
   c. Damaris Horn, born April 29, 1776, married David Bundy, son of Dempsey Bundy, on February 16, 1797.
   d. Nathan Horn, born July 8, 1778, died February 9, 1794
   e. Joel Horn, born September 9, 1781
   f. Mary Horn, born November 6, 1783, married John Barnes about 1807
   g. Sarah Horn, born May 26, 1786, married a Yelverton about 1805
   h. Orpha Horn, born December 18, 1788, married a close relation.
   i. Lydia Horn, born July 7, 1790,
   j. Thomas Horn, Jr., born April 27, 1793
   k. Wilson Horn, born in January 1798
10. Charity Horn was born on November 19, 1755, married William Battle, son of Elisha Battle, Sr., and wife Elizabeth Sumner.
   a. Isaac Battle, born July 3, 1775, married Lucinda Atkinson Mayo, They moved to Tennessee in 1810. Isaac died May 17, 1816.
   b. Ann Battle, born in 1777, married Daniel Ross and moved to Mississippi.
   c. Joel Battle, born May 16, 1779, married Mary Palmer Johnston April 9, 1801, died August 25, 1829.
   d. Charity Battle, born in 1781, died in 1784
11. Selah Horn was born on February 13, 1758.
12. Demaris Horn was born on May 31, 1760. In the Wayne County Census of 1790 she was listed with one male under sixteen, herself, one slave, and two other persons.[25]
   a. Thomas Horn, son of Demaris Horn, was left £100.0.0 in the will of James Cobb of Wayne County on April 25, 1794.[26]
13. Jeremiah Horn was born on November 1, 1763, married Pheraba Peelle, daughter of Robert Peelle and wife Margaret B. Jossey, on May 11, 1783, at Contentnea Monthly Meeting.
   a. Mary Horne, born May 28, 1784
   b. Elizabeth Horne, born November 3, 1785
   c. Henry Horne, born September 23, 1787, married Miriam Wood, daughter of Daniel B. Wood and wife Priscilla Farmer, in 1819
   d. Josse Horn, born May 17, 1790
   e. Piety Horn, born May 15, 1793, died August 22, 1793
   f. Piety Horn, born November 16, 1794
   g. Peggy Horn, born August 27, 1797, died April 28, 1801
   h. Christian Horn, born July 30, 1800
   i. Jeremiah Horn, Jr., born March 30, 1803
   k. Phebe Horn, born August 13, 1805

Sources:

1. First Families of America, Vol. 5, p. 62, 67.
2. Patent Book 11, p. 197.
3. Patent Book 11, p. 200.

3A Northampton D. B. 2, p.197

4. Patent Book 14, p. 217.
5. Patent Book 11, p. 192.
6. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 1, p. 75.
7. Deed Book C, p. 167.
8. Deed Book D, p. 79.
9. Deed Book D, p. 286.
10. William Wade Hinshaw, Editor, *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1936), I, pp. 54, 216, and 242.
11. Edgecombe County, Deed Book D, p. 477.
12. Deed Book 2, p. 9.
13. Deed Book E, p. 285.
14. Nash County, Deed Book 3, p. 346.
15. Wayne County, Deed Book 3, p. 174.
16. Deed Book 3, p. 400.
17. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 5, p. 110.
18. *Heads of Families*, etc., *1790; North Carolina* (Washington, D. C.,1908), p. 150.
19. Wayne County, Deed Book 5, p. 20.
20. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 5, p. 370.
21. Wayne County, Deed Book 5E, p. 118.
22. Will Book B, p. 198.
23. Wills & Settlements of Estates, 3, 1796-1807, pp. 27/26, in the North Carolina State Department of Archives.
24. Settlements of Estates, 3, F-Joh, in the North Carolina State Department of Archives.
25. *Heads of Families*, p. 150.
26. Wayne County, Wills & Settlements of Estates, p. 31, f. 4/p. 33, f. 1, in the North Carolina State Department of Archives.

DEED OF JOHN DICKISON TO WILLIAM ELLIS AND LARRY DEW

Wayne County, North Carolina Deeds, 1785-1920, Andrews-Hawkins, C.R.103.401.1, Folder: Early-Exum

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

This Indenture Made this 27th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty Between John Dickison of the County of Wayne and state of North Carolina of the one part and William Ellis of the County of Edgcomb and Larry Dew of the County of Nash both of the state aforesaid of the other part Witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of sixty Dollars in hand paid by the said William Ellis and Larry Dew the receipt Whereof he the said John Dickison doth hereby acknowlege and therewith fully satisfied and paid have given granted bargained sold and delivered and by these presents doth give grant bargain sell enfeoff and confirm unto the aforesaid William Ellis and Larry Dew there Heirs Executors administrators or assigns a certain tract or parcel of Land situate lying and being in the County of Wayne and state aforesaid on the North side of Black Creek and bounded as follows Begining at the Bridge on the banck of the creek thence up the various of said creek to Hardy Horns corner thence s^d Horns line to Chances line thence s^d Chances line to Cobbs road thence Cobbs line on the road to the beginning Containing Two hundred and eighty acres be the same more or less it being a tract or parcel of land Willed to the said John Dickison by his grand Father Edward Hood after the death of Patience Hood his Widow To have and to hold the above named bargained Land and premises unto the aforesaid William Ellis and Larry Dew there heirs and assigns forever after the death or Widow hood of the said Patience Hood in fee simple and he the said John Dickison do by these presents bind himself his heirs Executors and administrators forever to defend the right and title of the aforesaid land and premises unto the aforesaid William Ellis and Larry Dew there heirs and assigns free and clear from all the lawful claim or claims of all or any Person or persons Whatsoever In Witness Whereof he the said John Dickison have hereunto set his hand and seal the day and date above written

In presence of his
Wiley Rowntree John X Dickison
Jacob Farmer mark
A^r Bardin

Wayne County February term 1821. Then was the within deed of Sale from John Dickison to William Ellis & Larry Dew duly proved in open court by the oath of Arthur Bardin a subscribing Witness & let it be Registered P. Hooks clk

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WILLIAM WOODARD AND E. H. HORNADAY PROPERTY LINE ESTABLISHED

Wayne County, N. C. Deeds, Series: 1785-1920, Herring-Proctor, C.R. 103.401.2

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

This deed made this the 15th day of December AD 1879 Between William Woodard and wife Delpha of the County of Wilson and State of North Carolina and E H Hornaday and wife Ann of the County of Greene and State aforesaid Witnesseth That whereas the parties aforesaid own adjoining tracts of land lying in the County of Wayne in Fork Township and on the South Side of Sittle River and whereas the parties aforesaid have agreed to make the following as the line between their respective tracts of land to wit: Beginning at the mouth of a large ditch where it empties into Sittle River then up the various courses of said ditch to a Stake at the old corner then S24 /4W 89½ poles to a lightwood Stump then S38¾W 87 poles to the old corner on Pages branch (branch of Mills Run) then up the various courses of said branch to Masseys corner & Jernigan line or corner.

The said William Woodard & wife for and in consideration of that portion of the said E H Hornadays and wife's land lying west of the line aforesaid do hereby bargain sell and convey and by these presents does hereby bargain sell and convey to the said Ann E Hornaday all the land owned by the said Woodard lying East of said line aforesaid. The said E H Hornaday and wife for and in consideration of that portion of the said Woodards and wifes land lying East of the line aforesaid do hereby bargain sell and convey and by these presents does hereby bargain sell and convey to the said William Woodard all the land owned by the said E H Hornaday and wife lying west of said line aforesaid, To have and to hold to the said William Woodard and wife and to the said E. H. Hornaday and wife respectively to them and their heirs and assigns in fee simple forever.

In witness whereof they have hereunto set their hands and seal the day and year first above written

Witness Wm Woodard Jr
Delphia Woodard
A. E. Hornaday
E. H. Hornaday

TOUR OF DUTY

Jennifer M. Daniel

During any war, receiving letters from home can be imperative to the morale of those who are putting their very lives on the line for this great country! This was especially true during World War II when our troops were battling enemies on many fronts around the world. Letters home were equally as important even when their sanctity had been violated with a black marker or a pair of scissors in order to keep sensitive information confidential. Women performed quite a juggling act during WWII; they had to handle anything thrown at them at home while presenting a positive front to their soldier-husbands.

Wednesday, November 8, 1944

My Darling Andrew,

I love you! I love you! I love you! You have no idea how much I miss you! I can hardly wait to hold you in my arms again! Andy and Robert miss you too! They always ask when you will be home; I tell them *soon!* Am I telling them the truth? Are you well? Has the weather turned cold there yet? It is getting colder here; the boys love it because they know the snow is not far away now. We pray to God every day that the war will be over soon, and you will be home in time to help us build our first snowman.

Everyone at church sends their love and support! Thank God for folks at Mount Zion United Methodist Church; they have wrapped us in a wonderful blanket of love since you were called up for duty. Pastor Junius Neese visits every week and always says a special prayer for your safe return home. Everyone misses you, and I know you miss us!

Your latest letter was in one piece, and there were only a few places that were covered with black ink. I guess the army does not understand that I would die before I would betray your secrets to anyone. I know you have told me that they blackout or cut out things that they think might put you in danger, but it bothers me that they read our letters to each other. Do they cut up, and mark all over my letters to you? I am sorry for complaining my darling, but it is just that your letters are the closest thing I have to being with you; the paper that you have touched and the words that you have written to us from your heart are so precious to me. They should not be read by strangers who know nothing about us! Enough complaining! Did I happen to mention how much I love you?

The boys are settling into the first grade at New Hope Elementary, thanks to their teacher, Mrs. Esther Dew. They are learning to write and are already reading! Math is a little easier for Andy than for Robert, but he is catching up quickly. They are going to be brilliant young men; after all, they are their father's sons!

The air raid drills caused a few nightmares right after school started this fall. They dreamed about enemy planes shooting at the house as they flew over us, but I explained to them that this is why we do the drills. I also reminded them that we keep our shades pulled down and drapes drawn at night so any enemy planes that may be flying overhead will not be able to see the houses below. They are sleeping better now, but will still have a nightmare occasionally.

Your dad is taking the boys to scouts now; they are so adorable in their uniforms! Dad is so sweet about making sure he saves enough gas rations to fill that old black 1937 Chevy Standard of his so he can carry them to their meetings! They joined in July, just in time to start collecting peach pits again to burn into charcoal for the gas masks. I don't think Andy has ever eaten so many peaches; he had an upset stomach for few days after their first meeting. Robert, as you know, would not eat a peach even if he thought Hitler was going to walk into this house tomorrow! He did his part though; he carried a bowl around to collect pits from the scouts who were finished eating their peaches. I don't know how many pounds the scouts collected this summer but every little bit helps!

Everyone is helping out on the farm; we're gathering eggs, milking dear old Patsy, and taking turns churning the butter. Lord, I hope that old cow can hold out at least until this war is over. Your mother sells some of the surplus eggs, butter, and milk in town; then, she and your daddy split the money among all of us. Your family, our family, is taking very good care of us. The only thing we want and need that we do not have is you.

Thanks to our garden and your family, we are doing fine with the rations. Your mother, and your sisters, and I are sharing what we have among us; since I don't like coffee, I give my coffee rations to them and they share their sugar and meat rations with me. Thankfully, we do not use a lot of sugar, but the meat rations sure come in handy with these growing boys of ours.

Our Victory Garden was lovely this year! Your dad helped us to make the rows. It took us two days of working until it was almost dark. I didn't mind the work because the smell of the fresh dirt reminded me of all the times that you and I planted flowers and vegetables together. We probably had the most perfect garden rows in the county this year! We planted the usual things: beans, peas, corn, squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, and watermelons. Andy and Robert enjoyed working in the garden so much that they asked for their own plants; Andy wanted the corn, and Robert wanted the watermelons.

Robert would squat down in front of the melon row and sing, "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" to them every day. It must have helped because the watermelons were huge this year. Andy would carry a bucket of water out to his corn and talk to the plants while he gave them a drink, and then he would run off to play. His method worked too because the corn was plentiful this year as well. Maybe having a green thumb is not the real secret to a successful garden; maybe it is the love of a child. In any case, we grew so many vegetables this year that we were able to sell some in town.

The boys really enjoyed picking the vegetables, and I think gardening has helped Robert with his dislike of green vegetables; he'll eat a small amount of butter beans and peas now. I'm going to work on adding a few snap beans to his plate next. They're growing up almost as quickly as our garden this year; you will be so surprised when you see them again!

The holidays are almost upon us again, and your mother is planning a huge Thanksgiving feast again this year. I will save you a seat next to me. We have already begun our Christmas shopping for this year; I am just as shocked as you

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DEFINITIONS OF PROPERTY IN THE INVENTORY OF HENRY HORN

A to Zax, A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists & Historians

Barbara Jean Evans

adze: a tool, which dates back to the Stone Age, variations of which were used by a 1) hoop binder; 2) cooper; 3) carpenter; 4) bridge builder; 5) log cabin builder; 6) wood worker

auger: 1) a tool used by a carpenter to make holes in wood; 2) a large tool used to make holes in the ground, e.g. for fence posts

awl: a hand tool used to punch holes in leather, wood, etc.

cords: in a rope bed or corded bed, a rope was tightly stretched back and forth through holes drilled in the bed frame, or around wooded knobs to substitute for springs. [When needed, the cords were tightened leading to the saying "sleep tight."]

cutter: [There are six definitions. Listed here are ones that might be appropriate.] 1) a light sleigh with iron runners, usually pulled by one horse; 2) an apparatus used to slow a wagon going down a hill; 3) beef from an animal of a poor grade

dram: 1) a liquid measure which contained about a sixteenth of an ounce; 2) a small drink of spirituous liquor; 3) a pharmacist's weight which equaled about an eighth of an ounce

flesh fork: a large fork used for lifting and turning meat during the cooking process, or for serving

gimlet (auger bit): a steel tool used for boring holes in wood. A gimlet makes small holes, while an auger bit makes large holes.

hackle: a device used to comb flax or hemp prior to the spinning process

keeler: a shallow tub which could hold water for washing, etc.

piggin: a wooden pail-shaped container which has a handle formed by continuing one of the staves above the rim. Occasionally, it is made of glass or silver in approximately the same shape.

riddle: a large, coarse sieve

safe: a light, simple wooden cupboard in which food was stored. It was usually placed in a cool place.

sand sifter: [perhaps] In pre-revolution days when most houses did not have carpets, sand was spread over the floors and swept in fancy designs. Later when wood floors were common in kitchens, fine sand was used as a scrub powder.

steelyards: a portable scale suspended horizontally from a hook or held in a person's hand. Also called a lever scale

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

June 29, 2006, Board Meeting of WCGS

The Founding Families book is still a work in progress. Sue reported that she needs help in reviewing files, books and contributed information so that all appropriate data will be included. The book will be larger and more costly than originally planned because of additional pages and rising printing costs. The book is securely copied. A rough draft has been printed which will make it easier to read, correct, and add additional information. At the present time, there are 360 pages with roughly another 100 ready to be added.

There will be no surname directory this year.

Deborah Webb, Genealogy and Local History Librarian, is interested in additions to the photograph and Bible collections at the library.

Sarah Koontz will present a program on "Preservation of Family Papers" at our September meeting. Suggestions for upcoming programs were Betty McCain on "Religious Immigration" and Ms McCain or John Hackney on the Historical Society's collection of World War II stories.

Wanda Lamm serves as liaison with the *Wilson Daily Times.* It was suggested that we begin some reruns of old "Family Connections" articles while Henry is recovering. There were several suggestions on trying to involve more members in our meetings and the society's projects. The 2007 calendar will have to be started soon. Henry needs help with the pictures and articles. This year we will cover Lucama, and it was agreed to ask Horace Renfrow to assist us with information and suggestions on its historic sites.

The census books for 1860 and 1900 and Cemetery IV will be reprinted as needed.

Frances W. Roberson

(Continued from page 82)

that your mother is shopping early. Is there anything special you want or need Christmas? The boys and I are going to mail your gifts out around your mother's birthday (November 27); please write to me as soon as it arrives, if possible.

I am planning to make a new table cloth for Christmas … Oh, you will never guess whom I saw Monday while shopping downtown in Leder Brothers for fabric—Mayor William Daniel. It got away with me when I realized who he was; I always thought government officials paid someone to shop for them. I hope he was shopping for his mother instead of his wife because he picked out the ugliest brown print dress on the rack. Maybe he just has bad taste, or maybe it is just my sour grapes.

We are being good soldiers for this country, but mostly for you darling! You are already our hero, so please keep your head low, and come home soon so *our* "tour of duty" will be over! We love you with all our hearts!

Your loyal and loving wife,

Jennifer

PS: We love you Daddy!

Andy and Robert

[Editor's note: This concludes the Young Scholars Contest winners series. Perhaps they have inspired you to write a story around your family.]

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society
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August 2006

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___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
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___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

September 2006 **Volume 15 Number 8**

President's Message

We have all tried to reconstruct our heritage by studying the public records that they left. A few of us have been lucky enough to find correspondence and diaries or journals. When we gather these records, we can have an idea of the skeleton of their lives but not a complete story.

Some of you may have seen a "grandparent's book" which contains questions on different topics with a space to write the answer. My father was given one to complete for one of his grandchildren, and I learned from it things that I never knew about him. We never think to ask all the questions to which we later wish we knew answers.

Most of us began our quest after the death of those who could have answered many of our questions. Have you ever thought, "I wish my grandparents had written down the stories of their lives."

The time will come when your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and so on, will be wanting answers about your life. Will they have as much trouble learning your story as you have had learning about your ancestors? Probably not since so much of our lives are documented. However, those are all public records, and they do not tell our private stories. Just as we do not know the thoughts and emotions of our ancestors from the records that we can find, our descendants will not know ours unless we leave a record of them.

What better legacy could you leave your family than the story of your life, your thoughts and your feelings of the events that had an effect on your life! You could write it or record it. Just do it!

Sue Powell

SEPTEMBER 26TH MEETING
Wilson County Public Library
7:00 PM

We return from our summer break on the 26th of September. We will be privileged to have as our speaker Sarah E. Koonts, Head of the Collections Management Branch of North Carolina State Archives. Ms. Koonts will speak to us on the preservation of family papers and tell us how we can use the techniques of the professionals in our own homes. Prepare your questions that you have regarding your own collections, so that she will be able to answer them for you.

As specified in our By Laws, at our September meeting, our slate of nominees for the officers for upcoming year are presented, and the floor will be open for additional nominations.

The nomination committee has selected the following nominees:

President: Sue Powell
Vice-President: Phil Mooring
Secretary: Frances Roberson
Treaurer: Henry Powell
Member of the Board: Jane Poston

The president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer will be elected for a one year term. The president and vice president can serve no more than two consecutive terms. The board member is elected for a three year term. Wanda Taylor and Laura Newsome are currently serving continuing terms as board members.

The election of officers will take place at the October meeting.

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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON
Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them. [Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We started this series of letters in the May issue and will continue the letters in future issues of *Trees.*]

Wilson, N. C.
Nov. 13, '98

Dear Nip:

... The copies have already persuaded the Supt. to change the copy-books now used here for some having a style more like those shown him. The vertical writing used here is execrable—slow, and without a vestige of beauty. ...

Regarding my own plans I can say little. I shall, of necessity, probably stay here. My work is easy, the Supt. a fine man, the patrons apparently much pleased, pay prompt (hereafter). I still may leave. If the work is easy, it is too primary to be very inspiring; if the town is full of business, it is by no means crowded with education or the desire of it. I still pine for a place where I can learn something myself. I belong to four teachers' agencies (or shall in a few days), and if they give me a chance at something better I'll take it.

I'm even now being urged to take some shorthand pupils. It will bring me in several dollars extra per month, but I hesitate to begin because I may leave;

(Continued on page 86)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 85)

in which event the instruction would be worthless. …

Your Brother

- - - - -

Wilson, N. C.
Dec. 10, '98

Dear Nip:—

… It is cold as Christmas in very truth, and an open fireplace isn't the best heater in the world. In a little while I shall have a stove—meanwhile I freeze on the off side. Just now I have the writing table almost under the mantel, yet I'm too cold to write with any comfort. Tonight I'm going visiting where it is warmer.

Your brother
C. C. C.

LOUISA WALSTON OBITUARY

***Zion's Landmark*, October 15, 1907**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

LOUISA WALSTON.

On Sunday morning July 7th, 1907, the spirit of sister Louisa Walston, freed from its earthly tenement, took its flight, we believe to the home of the redeemed and blest.

She was the daughter of John R. and Polly Pitt, of Edgecombe Co., N. C., was born July 19th, 1849, died July 7th, 1907. She was married to W. F. Walston February 21st, 1869. She joined the Primitive Baptists August 1876, was baptised by Elder B. C. Pitt. She was a faithful member until her [death], much loved by the brethren.

She leaves a devoted husband and nine children, six grand children, two sisters and one brother.

She was in poor health for a number of years, was so patient in her afflictions. I have often heard her express a desire to be relieved when suffering, but always confessing the justice of God in afflicting her, seemed to be resigned to God's will being done. She was confined to her home for several months, was ever humble and submissive, appreciated every little act of kindness, so many times I have heard her say: "I am blest in having so many willing hands to wait on me." It was so hard to stand by and see her suffer and not be able to do one thing to relieve her, it is such a dependent feeling, dependent on the Lord. In disposition she was kind, gentle and unselfish, abiding by her candid convictions of right and wrong. I can truthfully say, to know her was to love her, her life was beautiful to me, always a smile of welcome on her dear face for her friends. Her goodness and kindness made all who knew her, her friends. A kinder and more devoted wife and mother I have never known, always striving for the peace and comfort of her loved ones. For several days before she died, her countenance seemed to express that she was calmly awaiting the appointed time of the Lord, trusting alone in death and resurrection of Jesus for justification, having realized within herself that vain is the help of man. We miss her gentle influence, yet when we think of the bright evidence that she left behind the memory of her great assurance comes as a balm to soothe our sorrows, and we feel assured that she is at rest.

May the Lord comfort her dear husband, children and friends.
When she has been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun.
She has no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when she first begun.

One who loved her.

FANNIE I. LEWIS.

St. Lewis, N. C., Sept. 16th, 1907.

Early Stantonsburg Property Owners

"Looking Backward, Hugh Johnston
***Wilson Daily Times* (date unknown)**

The oldest incorporated town in lower Edgecombe County is Stantonsburg, which dates from December 23, 1817. The reader may be interested in some notes on a few of the early property owners in the town and its vicinity.

On March 1, 1842, Joab Horn of Edgecombe County sold Samual B. Carmack for $200.00 Lot No. 15, witnessed by Andrew E. Gill and Joshua Wilkinson.

On March 10, 1835, Henry Shirley sold Isaac W. Horn of Edgecombe County for $400.00 a lot in Stantonsburg adjoining the Masonic Lodge Lot and of the same size, witnessed by Solomon Pender and John F. Hughes.

On December 26, 1833, Bennett B. Bell sold John R. Horn and Thomas L. Burt a lot of two-thirds of an acre adjoining Arthur Speight, Shirley's Lot, and Main Street, witnessed by W. H. Pratt. On May 28, 1835, William Burt of Nash County deeded to John R. Horne of Edgecombe County for love and affection Lot No. 25 of a half-acre bought from Joseph Daniel north of Main Street and opposite the William Stewart & Co. Store, witnessed by Joab Horne, A. G. Gill, and Joshua Wilkinson. On February 10, 1840, John R. Horn and Thomas L. Burt mortgaged to Coffield Ellis their three lots in Stantonsburg, two cotton gins, and the scales and weights, witnessed by John Wilkinson and David Jordan. On February 14, 1840, John R. Horne of Edgecombe County sold John Exum of Wayne County for $300.00 his half-interest in a lot of two-thirds of an acre adjoining Abner Speight, Zadock Peacock, and on the south by Main Street, witnessed by Stephen Woodard and Edwin Barnes.

On March 16, 1822, James D. Stanton sold Josiah R. Horn of Edgecombe County for $240.00 a lot in Stantonsburg of one and two-thirds acres where Horn was then living, witnessed by Henry T. Stanton and Willie Windham. On January 12, 1824, Henry T. Stanton and Josiah R. Horn, agents of James D. Stanton, sold Seth Tyson of Pitt County for $400.00 a house and half-acre lot on the north side of Stantonsburg adjoining Elijah Price, witnessed by Benjamin Miller and Joseph Daniel. On July 12, 1825, Josiah R. Horn sold William Stewart for $350.00 the Horn Lot adjoining the Brownrigg Lot, witnessed by Benjamin Miller and Morrison Thomas. On August 26, 1825, Elijah Price sold Josiah R. Horn for $200.00 the Brownrigg Lot of one acre, witnessed by A. B. Thomas.

On August 4, 1826, Elizah Pice sold Josiah R. Horn for $3,250.00 200 acres beginning at the Bridge across Contentnea Creek and along the lines of Henry L. Stanton, Little Branch, Benjamin Amason, Sr., deceased, the Main Road leading to Tarboro, and down the road to the Bridge, excepting the Town Lots of Joseph Daniel, Asa Pate, and Richard Bradley, witnessed by Gray Little and N. L. Daniel. On August 11, 1828, Josiah R. Horne sold Asa Pate for $180.000 the Horne Lot in the northeast corner of Stantonsburg formerly owned by Dr. Henry Brownrigg, adjoining the Stage Road, the branch, and the Jeremiah Lester Lot, witnessed by Benjamin Miller and Levi Amason. On September 9, 1833, Josiah R. Horne of Edgecombe County sold William Burt of Nash County for $250.00 a lot of one acre adjoining Stewart, Main Street, Back Street, and the heirs of James Woodard, witnessed by James B. Woodard and Edwin Barnes.

Joseph Warren Lodge Lot

On August 6, 1826, Josiah R. Horn sold Blake Little for $3,250.00 a tract of 200 acres adjoining the Bridge over Contentnea Creek, Henry T. Stanton, Little Branch, Roderick Amason, Elisha Amason, the Tarboro Road, and the Meeting House, excepting Joseph Daniel's Lots, the lot whereon Asa Pate was then living "which belongs to the trustees of Joseph Warren Lodge," and Richard Bradley's Lot, witnessed by Henry T. Stanton.

Stanton's Chapel

On October 1, 1823, Elijah Price sold Josiah R. Horne for $1,800.00 the property adjoining Stantonsburg, going from the Bridge down Contentnea Creek to James Stanton's line, then past Stanton's Chapel and the Tarboro Road, "All the Land included within said boundary with the exception of the Town lots & commons and the Lot whereon the said Horn now lives," witnessed by Benjamin Miller and James B. Tartt. On July 31, 1829, James D. Stanton, "late from the State of Alabama," sold Josiah R. Horn of Edgecombe County for $10.00 "a certain tract or parcel of land where on the meeting house called Stantonsburge meeting house now stands ...beginning at the foot path running up to the meeting house from the Tarboro Road," and adjoining Blake Little, two acres in all, witnessed by Isaac Horn and Turner Faircloth.

On November 6, 1829, Lemuel and Elizabeth Deberry sold Josiah R. Horne for $1,500.00 a tract of 250 acres adjoining the road "leading from Stantonsburg to Stanton's mill & near to Stantonsburg meeting house," Isaac Horn, James Stanton, Davis, the "race path, the "road leading from Ruffin's ferry to Tosneott to Washington Stanton's gate," and Sally Stanton (it being land inherited by Elizabeth Deberry from James Stanton, Sr., her deceased father), witnessed by Isaac Horn and Lemon P. Stanton.

On December 21, 1829, James M. Stanton sold Josiah R. Horn a tract of ten acres (said Stanton's homeplace) adjoining Isaac and Jacob Horne, the Tarboro Road, Lemuel Deberry, and the Meeting House Branch, witnessed by Isaac Horn and Henry Horn. On June 12, 1833, Josiah R. Horn of Edgecombe County sold William D. Barnes for $1,500.00 a tract of 30 acres north of the Tarboro Road adjoining Isaac and Jacob Horn, the path this side of the Meeting House, Barnes Amason, and the Meeting House Branch, witnessed by W. B. Barnes and T. Amason.

[Editor's note: The Tarboro Road corresponded to what is now Highway 222 leaving Stantonsburg until the intersection with County Road 1004, now called Good News Church Road. Good News Church Road now intersects with Highway 42 near Macclesfield.

The Joseph Warren Masonic Lodge is the oldest fraternal lodge in Wilson County and the 33rd oldest in the state. The organizational meeting was held on October 22, 1825, and was attended by Jesse Speight, Elnathan Tart, Josiah Horn, Thomas Amerson, Wade R. Thomas, Benjamin Miller, Elijah Price, and William D. Petway. Reverend Josiah Horn and Archelaus B. Howard were appointed to contract for the building of a Lodge House. It is not known if it was built.]

ASHLEY PAGE, WIFE ELIZABETH LANCASTER AND EXTENDED FAMILY

Albert R. Page, Sr.

Introduction

The attempt to try and locate a founding ancestor by research can be a monstrous job. No wonder those with family history research experience advise starting from the present and working backward in time. Even when one attempts the favored method of researching genealogical information on family lines, vital information has what seems to be the habit of vanishing into thin air so to speak.

There were some few Pages in Edgecombe County by the middle of the 18th century. Estates records, wills, deeds and other sources provide the names of founding Page settlers in early Edgecombe County. By the time of the French & Indian War in the Colonies (1756-1763), Pages were in old Edgecombe County. John Page's name was mentioned in the records many times. Soon thereafter by the 1770's, others were mentioned in the records such as Thomas, Abraham, Samuel and Jacob Page. In the 1780's adding to those previous mentioned were William and Joseph Page. In the 1790's the records add Melchizedek Page's name in Edgecombe County. After the turn of the century (1800), family Page names tend to duplicate themselves in the record probably due to the fact that they had been by then in the county for four or five decades. In addition to some of the same names above, additional names began to appear such as Dorcas, Eason, James and Stephenton Page.[1] By the time of the enlightened 1850 census, other family names were recorded in this record which included, in addition to the "head of household," the names of others in the household. The value of the whole process of recording each family member's name in the census enumeration must have been immediately obvious. As valuable as this new method was, it did not put ancestors together. Additional witnesses would have to be used to connect parents and grandparents to the families listed in the valuable 1850 census. Maybe those records exist and maybe they do not. That is where the huge job of researching a family ancestor comes in.

The First Decades: the 1840's & the 1850's

The very first time Ashley Page's name appeared in the Edgecombe County records was when he got married. No family bible record has been found to date that recorded this personal information and linked him to his parents. The 1840 Edgecombe County census is of little help in answering this problem as no family members are recorded there by name. It is almost as if Ashley Page appeared out of no place or it seems that way. In 1845, Ashley applied for a marriage bond at the Edgecombe County courthouse. He proposed to marry Elizabeth Lancaster on the 10th of March in 1845 or soon thereafter.[2] This writer has not found a record that identified Elizabeth's Lancaster parents. Later records indicate that on the 17th of September of 1845, the first and only biological off spring of this couple was born.[3] The parents named her Mary Jane Page. As valuable as the 1850 Edgecombe County census is, it does not include the names of this Page family. There are other Pages recorded therein but not the family of Ashley Page. This is a huge disappointment though some other present day family descendants suggest that Ashley Page had "problems" and did not want to be found.[4] Some other records do place him in Edgecombe County in the 1850's. Wilson County was formed in 1855, and records began to be kept in the Wilson County courthouse. Gratifyingly, the records reveal that, on the 30th of July in 1858, Ashley Page purchased from David Webb and John Walston a track of land on the south side of Town Creek next to John Webb's land. The sale was for 195 acres at the price of $550.00.[5]

The Second Decade: the 1860's

The first Wilson County census report was taken in mid 1860. It reveals personal information about Ashley Page and his family and their geographical location in the county. Ashley and Elizabeth Page's birth years were given. They were listed as being 35 years old. In the fifteen years they had been married, only one child was listed for them. Mary Jane Page was recorded as being fifteen years old.[6] Ashley Page was reported to have had a farm valued at $800.00, and personal assets on the farm were reportedly worth $385.00. The slave records do not show he owned any blacks. He purchased 195 acres in 1858, but the 1860 census records states he had only 30 improved acres and 70 unimproved acres.[7] My math fails me at this juncture as there is no accounting for the other 95 acres. These acres show up later. Ashley Page was listed in the census as number 772, and that falls in the "Joyners & Gardners District." His neighbors were Blake Baker (770), Thomas Baker (771), Josiah Pittman (773) and James Pittman (774). Not far away by number (758) was the family of Isaac and Lucinda Page. Clearly the families from number 753 to 766 were families in the Rosebud Church area of Gardners Township. Stephen Cherry, W.W. Batts, Robert Petway, William Skinner, W.W. Flowers and Martha Thorne were families known as land holders in this area. Ashley Page's land usually has not been associated with this location of Wilson County.[8]

It would be an understatement at this point to try to characterize the impact of the Civil War years (1861-1865) on the families in Wilson County and other southern locations. Likely no other experience could be compared. Records of Company F, 16th Battalion North Carolina Cavalry list many Wilson County troops. On the list of familiar names were Seth Tyson, Duncan Skinner, Isaac C. Page, Lorenzo Felton, William M. Thorne, Barnes W. Page, Rufus R. Forbes, Edwin Barnes and "A. Page." It seems likely this last listing was Ashley Page.[9] At the War's disastrous end, those who were able found their way back home the best they could. Getting back on the favorable economic track was no easy task after the War. Reconstruction was also a difficult time down South. Locating exactly Ashley Page's farm today has been helped by a Confederate map made during the War years. Under the direction of the Confederate Engineer's Office, Chief Engineer, General Jeremy Francis Gilmer directed a survey be made about 1861 that produced a very valuable geographical map that located county residents in their respective residential locations. Ashley Page was listed among his neighbors as being on the border of eastern Wil-

(Continued on page 89)

(Ashley Page, Continued from page 88)
son County and western Edgecombe County. His farm was about a mile south of highway 42 and what is called today Bridgersville on SR 1510.[10] Later Wilson County land records confirm this location.

Without the benefit of a bible record, it appears from the census records that Ashley and Elizabeth Page's daughter Mary Jane Page married Rufus R. Forbes during the Civil War. Most likely it was about 1862 because Catherine Forbes their daughter was born in 1863.[11] Ashley Page and Rufus Forbes spent military time together up North during the War years. Rufus Forbes came from a well to do family, and he inherited land from his father Hyrum Forbes.[12] Rufus and Mary Jane Page Forbes are known to have lived their married lives there on her father's land after the War.[13] In early 1869 Ashley and Elizabeth Page transferred 100 acres of their land to their daughter Mary Jane Page Forbes.[14] The Wilson County land records also record on the same date of the 30th of March in 1869 that Ashley Page applied for and received a homestead and personal property exemption guaranteed by the North Carolina Constitution. Ashley Page may have had debt or tax problems at that time resulting in his exercising the State protection against part of his property. Justice of the Peace William R. Wiggins appointed, on the 1st of April in 1869, "free holders" Randolph Forbes, Thomas Baker and Bennett C. Luper to lay off and allot to Ashley Page his homestead. The total value did not exceed $1,000. The one hundred acres valued at $300.00 was bounded by Pittman, Webb, Baker and Mary J. Forbes' land. The personal property allotted ranged from house furniture to farm animals, buggy, gun, cooking utensils, and spinning wheel. Altogether the long list of personal property was valued at $361.50. The long list of property items all totaled was well under the $1,000 limit.[15] After this experience, the Page family put this matter behind them and turned to more enjoyable family pursuits. About this same time, they enjoyed the arrival of two more grandchildren. Meddick D. and Hyrum R. Forbes were born to their daughter and son in law.[16]

The Third Decade: the 1870's

This period reveals an unexpected direction or course that the Ashley Page family took. The beginnings of this extraordinary behavior reached back into the previous decade. The evidence for those of us who have to rely on the recorded record was in the 1870 Wilson County Census.[17] First of all, the listing of the Ashley Page family next to the Hardy Barnes family in the Gardners Township and all the other families that are commonly associated with Penders Crossroad, Cattail and Rosebud Church Road defies explanation today in 2006.[18] Ashley Page's land holding was clearly on the east side of Wilson County and not in what appears to be another area north and east of highway 42. Ashley Page was enumerated as number 49 in Gardners Township.[19] His daughter Mary Jane Page and her husband Rufus Forbes carry the number 168 among other neighbors such as the Bakers, Webbs, Ellis and Pittman families that are clearly reported in the land records as Ashley Page's surrounding neighbors that bordered his property in east Wilson County.[20] There is a geographical location problem for Ashley Page's family here that is not clear at present to this writer.[21] Anyway, pressing forward, the information in the 1870 census regarding Ashley Page's family reveals that his 7 year old granddaughter Kate (Catherine) Forbes was there with them.[22] That was not unusual, but the fact that two other people were in the household is. First of all there was a 6 year old Morrison Webb listed as "at home" there also. I must confess that at first glance this meant nothing to me. But some time later in the research process and after conversation with a number of others interested in this Ashley Page family, hindsight tells that Morrison Webb was an extra child born in 1865 to Susan Webb.[23] Not only that new light of information but this later research identified two other children born in the 1860's to Ashley Page and Susan Webb. Morrison Webb had a sister Louisa born in 1867 and a brother Robert born in 1868. Twenty five year old Susan Webb was listed in the census as number 173 next to 56 year old Henry Webb and only a few houses from Rufus and Mary Jane Page Forbes.[24]

Now secondly, the last unusual characteristic about the household of Ashley Page in 1870 was that another female was present. Twenty two year old Zana Summerlin was listed as a "farm laborer." Through the research process and timely tips from others, it appears that Zana Summerlin gave birth to a son in 1871 which was named Ashley Thomas Page. He was also a fourth illegitimate child of Ashley Page, Sr.[25] Ashley Page was listed in the 1870 census as being 48 years old, and it was obvious what he was doing in his spare time. It is not quite evident in the written record how wife Elizabeth Lancaster Page was taking all of her husband's extracurricular activity. Other than the fact she remained with her husband through out his life, the written record is silent.

Rufus and Mary Jane Page Forbes had two other children in the 1870's that increased the grandchildren of Ashley and Elizabeth Page. James Ashley Forbes was born 1876 and Nancy Jane Forbes was born in 1878.[26] During these years of the 1870's, the Forbes, Pages and Webbs worked the family farms to sustain their livelihood. The Reconstruction Era ended, a new president was elected for the United States, and life in the South returned to a semblance of normalcy.

The Fourth Decade: the 1880's

The 1880 Wilson County census listed Ashley Page as 54 years old and Elizabeth, his wife, as 58 years in age. Eighteen-year-old granddaughter Catherine (Kate) Forbes was there along with half siblings Morrison (16 yrs.), Louisa (13 yrs.) and Robert (11 yrs.). Interestingly, Susan Webb was listed in the very next household number 279 as 38 years old and "works on farm."[27] Rufus and Mary Jane Page Forbes were listed at some distance away from the Pages at number 221 in the same Gardners Township. During the 1880's, they added three more daughters to their family. Louasia (Lucy) was born in 1881; Vonnie was born in 1884, and Ida was born in 1887.[28] Catherine Forbes was the first grandchild to marry. She married William H. Page on the 12th of December in 1883. They produced two great grand children, William B. Page in 1885 and Meddle Sidney Page in 1889.[29]

During these same years Ashley and Elizabeth Page seem to have sold three small pieces of their land. According to the Wilson County Courthouse land records, they sold 27 acres

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(Ashley Page, continued from page 89)
to John Webb in 1880, 30 acres to Bennett Webb in 1883, and finally in 1884 they sold 30 more acres to John Webb.[30]

The last document that included Ashley Page's presence was in December of 1884. Wilson County land records indicated that wife Elizabeth Lancaster Page, Rufus R. Forbes and Mary Jane Page Forbes sold 50 acres of land to Morrison Webb for $300.00 on the 16th day of May in 1887. This land was described as "a portion of the old tract of Ashley Page land".[31] It seems likely Ashley Page died between his last court appearance in December of 1884 and when his family sold son Morrison Webb part of the farm in May of 1887. Ashley would have probably been something more than sixty years of age at his death. He likely was buried right there on his farm probably not at a great distance from his home.[32]

The Fifth Decade: the 1890's

Elizabeth Lancaster Page lost her husband at what seemed to be an early age. Daughter Mary Jane Page Forbes suffered a similar sad experience when her husband Rufus Forbes died on the 13th of March in 1890. His headstone records this date as his final record.[33] With both men gone the Page and Forbes families surely felt the great loss emotionally and economically. The children in the two households must have been relied on more. Soon two of Ashley Page's children left home. Louisa Webb, the daughter by Susan Webb, married Andrew Johnson on the 18th of December in 1890. One year later, on the 23rd of December in 1891, Morrison Webb married Pattie Batts from the Bridgerville and Cattail Roads area.[34] Without some hired help both mother Elizabeth Page and daughter Mary Jane Page Forbes would have been economically handicapped. Likely they hired some tenant farmers to help cultivate their farmland.

In 1895, a Wilson County courthouse deed dated the 30th of August reported that Mary Jane Forbes and her mother Elizabeth Page contracted with the Eureka Lumber Company of Washington, N. C., to harvest timber from 50 acres of the "old Askley Page track." This land was part of the 215 acres Mary J. Forbes and Elizabeth Page owned.[35] It is not clear at this point to this writer what or if any of the land was any that Rufus Forbes inherited from his father Hyrum Forbes. Rufus did inherit a farm from his father in 1861 according to Wilson County deed records.[36] Elizabeth Lancaster Page's name does not appear again in the historical record hereafter. She was not reported in the 1900 Wilson County census. It is evident she died sometime after 1895 and was buried with her late husband. No headstone has been found on the old Ashley Page land for them. A current land owner of some of Ashley Page's farm land and former farmer of some of the old Page farm told this writer as recent as this past spring that there is another graveyard just behind the Rufus and Mary Jane Forbes graveyard. Could this be the final resting place of Ashley Page and his wife Elizabeth Lancaster Page?[37]

The last child of Ashley Page and Susan Webb, Robert W. Webb, married Nora Roberson in Wilson County on the 11th of May in 1898.[38] Before the 1900 general census was taken, the first grandchild of Ashley and Elizabeth Page, Catherine "Katie" Forbes Page, died leaving her husband William H. Page with their four young sons to raise: William B. (14 yrs.), Sidney (11 yrs.), Roney (7 yrs.) and Kinney (5 yrs.).[39]

The Last Time Period: 1900-1929

When the Wilson County 1900 census was taken, Ashley and Elizabeth Page's daughter Mary Jane Forbes was still living on the farm, and her neighbor families were Roland Reason, George W. Gay, Charlie Bridgers (son in law), Thomas Page (this was Ashley Thomas Page's half brother), Bennett Webb, Burt Summerlin, and Gray Baker. This was the same neighborhood where the old Ashley Page farm was located. The census report stated that Mary Jane Forbes was 55 years old and that she had had ten children of which seven were living. Some of the children of Mary Jane and Rufus Forbes must have died between the census decades. The four children home at this time were sons Meddie and Hyrum and daughters Vonnie and Ida M. The other resident of the home, Mary L. Forbes age four, might have been a granddaughter or other kin.[40] What was left of the Forbes nuclear family would soon fragment. Vonnie Forbes married Essex Webb in 1901; Hyrum married in 1902 to Sarah Ida Bridgers, and James Ashley "Jimmy" Forbes married also a little later in 1902 to Martha Ella Green. Ida Mae Forbes married Albert B. Felton in 1904.[41] Mother Mary Jane Page Forbes soon found her age catching up with her and her ability to tend to the farm impossible.

The inevitable was obvious. With no one left at home to help tend the farm and no family arrangement to continue ownership, the Wilson County Courthouse land deeds provide the answer. The last time Mary Jane Page Forbes' name was on the Wilson County land records was on the 16th of January in 1909. On that date Mary Jane Forbes along with son Meddie D. Forbes and his wife Minnie Bridgers Forbes sold the 217 acre old Ashley Page farm land for $3,800.00. The land was in four tracks of 100, 60, 30 and 27 acres. The new deed that Dr. Charles B. Walton of Macclesfield, Edgecombe County, North Carolina, received was recorded in the Wilson County courthouse on the 27th of February in 1909.[42] For the first time in about fifty years, there was no land listed in the Page-Forbes name in Wilson County.

No census records could be found for Mary Jane Page Forbes in the 1910 and 1920 enumerations. Interviews by this writer of later family members reported that she lived with her daughters from place to place in an around Macclesfield during her last years.[43] Finally, the Edgecombe County Courthouse records provided the last entry in the public record for Mary Jane Page Forbes. She died the 23rd of June in 1929 at age 84 from heart problems there in the area of Macclesfield. Her son Jimmy Forbes was the informant. She was buried according to the death certificate on the old Ashley Page farm in what was called the "old Forbes place" cemetery by the undertaker firm of Carlisle and Ellis of Macclesfield on the 25th of June in 1929 next to her late husband.[44] The Forbes family had a large and permanent headstone placed there to mark their graves.[45] It is very possible that before Rufus and later Mary Jane Page Forbes were buried in this burial ground that Ashley and later Elizabeth "Betsy" Lancaster Page had been buried there too. With no markers to identify their graves today it is hard to say with certainty.[46]

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(Ashley Page, continued from page 90)

Summary

With all the above said by this writer about Ashley and Elizabeth Page and the other articles written on the Pages of Wilson County by me, I can not with assurance identify the parents of my direct Page ancestor Joseph Page whose wife was Cherry Baker.[47] Until better and more informative records come forward, the search goes on to relate the different Page families that are present in the records of old Edgecombe and Wilson Counties.

Endnotes and Some Comments

1. Joseph W. Watson, *Abstracts of Early Deeds of Edgecombe County North Carolina, 1759-1772*, pgs. 422 & 431; J.W. Watston, *Estate Records of Edgecombe County, North Carolina 1730-1820*, pg. 313; Ruth S. Williams & Margarette G. Griffin, *Abstracts of Wills Edgecombe County, North Carolina 1733-1856*, pgs. 23-24 & 387; David B. Gammon, *Abstracts of Wills Edgecombe County, North Carolina, 1824-1857, Vol. III*, pgs. 241, 253 & 396; Jesse M. Page, Jr., *The Page Family in North Carolina 1685-1850*, pg. 59.
2. Frances T. Ingmire, *Edgecombe County, North Carolina, Marriage Records 1760-1868*, pg. 48.
3. Joan Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1860*, pg. 80, No. 772; Howell, *Wilson County, North Carolina Cemeteries, Vol. 1*, pg. 189.
4. Personal telephone conversations with Ashley Thomas Page's granddaughters Lela & Alonia Page, April & May 2006, at Rocky Mount, N. C.; J.M. Page, Jr.'s, *The Page Family in N.C. 1685-1850*, pg. 96. Here Ashley Page seems to be in some conflict with the State in a prosecution docket, Feb. term 1851.
5. Wilson County Courthouse land deeds for Ashley Page, 30 July 1858.
6. Howell, *Wilson County Census 1860*, pg. 80, No. 772.
7. Same source as above but see Agricultural Schedule, pg. 141, No. 1910.
8. Same source as No. 6 pgs. 78-80.
9. *North Carolina Troops, Vol. II*, pg. 679, Company F, 16th Battalion North Carolina Cavalry.
10. See "Maps from Confederate Engineer Bureau, Richmond, Va., Gen. Jeremy Francis Gilmer, Chief Engineer," 1861. Braswell Library in Rocky Mount, N.C., has a copy of this map.
11. Howell, *Wilson County, N. C., Federal Census of 1870*, pg. 61, No. 168 & pg. 51, No. 49.
12. J. Robert Boykin, III, *Abstracts of Wills, Wilson County, North Carolina 1855-1899*, pgs. 34-35, the Hiram Forbes' will.
13. Deeds from 1909 to 1913 record the land Mary Jane Page Forbes sold to Dr. C. B. Walton then to William M. Howard and finally to J. C. Bridgers in 1913 that indicate that this was old Ashley Page land with a graveyard reserved. J. C. Bridgers had the land surveyed in 1916, and a very good map survives today in the Wilson County Courthouse. He divided this land up and sold eight individual pieces to five buyers. From this sale beginning in 1916 until today, the old Ashley Page land has been divided. It is unclear if any Rufus R. Forbes land was included.
14. Wilson County Courthouse land deeds for 1869 show Ashley Page and wife Elizabeth transferring 100 acres to daughter Mary Ann Page Forbes.
15. Same source as above also shows the Exemption case for Ashley Page in 1869.
16. Howell, *Wilson County Census, 1870*, pg. 61, No. 168.
17. Same source as above, pg. 51, No. 49.
18. It is confusing to this writer why the Ashley Page family was listed next to the Hardy F. Barnes family in this census unless he lived temporarily in this area today called the Rosebud Church Road area. His land was most always associated with the Wilson and Edgecombe County border area just south of the intersection of Bridgerville Road and highway 42.
19. Same as No. 17 above.
20. See Confederate Map in No. 10.
21. See source No. 18 above.
22. See source No. 17 above.
23. Conversations with Betty Reason, Vera W. Stallings, Don Cooper, Lela & Alonia Page, over the past couple of years. Morrison Webb's Wilson Co. death certificate identifies Ashley Page as his father. So do the other Page/Webb records of the children out of wedlock in the Wilson County Courthouse.
24. Howell, *Wilson County 1870 Census*, pg. 62, No. 173.
25. Discussion with Don Cooper, Lela and Alonia Page and the Wilson Co. death certificate of Ashley Thomas Page, 1945.
26. Boykin, *Wilson County Census 1880*, pg. 201 "Rufus Forbes."
27. Same source as above, pg. 453, "Susan Webb."
28. Howell, *Wilson County Census 1900*, pg. 71, No. 95.
29. Same source as above, pg. 250, No. 281.
30. Wilson County Courthouse land deeds under Ashley Page in 1880, 1883 & 1884. See books 22, pgs. 34 & 35 and 23, pg. 192.
31. Same source as above book 25, pg. 436.
32. In a conversation with Danny Wayne Robbins, Jr., and Sr., on the 30th of April in 2006, who presently own and live on part of the old Mary Jane Page Forbes/Ashley Page land, they reported that they tore down the old Forbes home place about four or five years ago. Danny, Jr., lives on that site in a new house today right across from the Rufus and Mary Jane Page Forbes graveyard. Danny, Sr., told this writer years ago that when he leased part of the old Forbes/Page farm near the graveyard, one day while plowing the land on the back side of the old present graveyard, a black man working for Robbins "hooked" the top of a coffin lid and pulled it open and exposed the corpse. It was reported to be "a woman with blond hair." As quickly as possible they got a backhoe and returned the burial location back to its original condition. Danny, Sr., told this writer that he could this day just about locate the same spot just slightly back of the present Forbes graveyard. We marked the spot on a map about ten to twenty yards behind and south of the Forbes burial area.
33. Howell, *Wilson County, N. C., Cemeteries Vol. 1*, pg. 189. The graveyard is recorded as that of "Burl Sumlin," but it was the Rufus & Mary Jane Forbes graveyard.
34. Boykin, *Wilson County Marriage Records*, pg. 732.

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ARTHUR TAYLOR

Hugh B. Johnston files

Arthur Taylor, son of John Taylor and wife Ann Seward (?), was born early as 1708 in Surry County, Virginia, where his family had been anciently settled. The name of his wife has not yet been ascertained, but they had at least eleven children. As early as 1730 he had moved across the line into Isle of Wight County, but by 1745 he was living in Edgcombe (now Nash) County, North Carolina, where he died in the year 1765. It has been conjectured that he married Ann Strickland, daughter of Matthew Strickland and wife Ann Braswell of Isle of Wight County, but this can be neither proved nor disproved by existing evidence.

On July 14, 1730, Arthur Taylor and Mathew Cooper witnessed the will of Mathew Strickland of Isle of Wright County.[1] On January 23, 1737/38, Thomas Taylor, Arthur Taylor, and Robert Pitman appraised the estate of Augustine Nixon.[2] On November 8, 1740, Arthur Taylor was in Surry County and "received of Nicholas Maget and Ann his wife Administratrix of John Taylor deceased full Satisfaction for all Claims be it what Quallity Whatsoever that I have against the s^d Estate As far as the Inventory Extends;" witnessed by Peter Warren and Benjamin Clark.[2A] On July 14, 1742, Arthur (A) Powell sold Arthur Tayor of Isle of Wight County for £0.5.0 a tract of 83 acres south of Sweat House Swamp on a branch (formerly patented by Nathaniell Powell); witnessed by William Bynum, John Edwards, and Robet Pittman.[3]

On July 3, 1745, Henry and Lurana (x) Horn, Planters, sold Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County, Planter, for £20.0.0 current Virginia money 20 acres south of Tar River adjoining William Dickinson (from a patent to Horn on May 4, 1742); witnessed by William Pugh, John (x) Polk, and Edmund (x) O'Neal.[4] On November 16,1753, Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County sold Edmond Sherrod for £5.0.0 Proclamation Money 335 acres bounded by Wills, Dickerson's Branch, and the River (from Taylor's patent of 749 acres on October 26, 1753); witnessed by Lazarus Pope, Samuel Williams, and Edward Moore.[5]

On April 10, 1754, Arthur Taylor sold Lazarus Pope for £10.0.0 current Virginia money 96 acres south of Tar River adjoining Dickerson and Hilliard (from Taylor's Patent of 749 acres); witnessed by Edward Moore and Edmond (x) Sherwood.[6] On February 13, 1755, Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County sold Thomas Turner of Southampton County for £63.0.0 current Virginia money 75 acres in the latter county, "being the Plantation Whereon the said Arthur Taylor formerly Lived," bounded by Joseph Lane and Tarrarah Creek (bought by said Taylor from Joseph Strickland on February 24, 1728) and 450 acres on Tarraroe Creek adjoining Simon Everit, John McMail, Margaret Jefferys, and said Taylor (a grant to said Taylor on August 5, 1751); witnessed by Drewry Bynum, Michael Blow, and John Person.[7]

On July 15, 1756, Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County sold Harris Taylor of Southampton County for £18.0.0 current money 100 acres on Aaron's Branch and Tarraroe Pocoson "at the thoroughfair," adjoining said Harris Taylor and Thomas Turner (from a patent dated January 24, 1756); witnessed by John Edwards, Joseph Everitt, and John Wilkinson.[8] On May 9, 1757, Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County sold Thomas Turner of Southampton County for £15.0.0 current money 90 acres adjoining said Taylor, Harris Taylor, and said Turner (from a patent dated January 24, 1756); witnessed by William Bynum, Benjamin Bynum, and John Wilkinson.[9]

On ___ 8, 1761, Christopher Clinch of Brunswick County, Virginia, sold Arthur Taylor of Edgecombe County for £8.0.0 Proclamation Money 160 acres in the latter County south of Tar River and along Green's Path; witnessed by George Brown, John Cohoon and ____ Greenlees.[10] On March 9, 1764, Arthur Taylor sold Gale Bryant for £50.0.0 Proclamation Money 150 acres north of Tar River at Pasture Ford (from Taylor's patent dated October 26, 1753); witnessed by Duncan Lamon and Thomas Vanlandingham.[11]

On October 24, 1764, Arthur Taylor sold John Bone for £40.0.0 Virginia currency 168 acres north of Tar River and bounded by a branch and Jacob Bracewell (from Taylor's patent of 749 acres on October 6, 1753).[12] On July 20, 1765, Arthur Taylor sold Edward Ballard for £25.0.0 Proclamation Money 75 acres north of Tar River on Long Branch adjoining Jacob Braswell (from Taylor's patent of 700 acres on August 1, 1761); witnessed by Edward Moore, John (x) Taylor, and Catherine (x) Vading.[13]

Arthur Taylor made his will in St. Mary's Parish of Edgcombe County on August 9, 1765, and it was probated in October Court, 1765: (1) daughter Martha Dew, slave boy; (2) son and executor Benjamin Taylor, use of a slave wench; (3) grandson Benjamin Taylor, Jr., reversion in said slave; (4) son James Taylor, rifle gun, iron kettle; (5) grandson John Taylor, 160 acres south of Tar River on Green's Path, bought from Christopher Clinch; (6) grandson Samuel Taylor, slave boy; (7) son Willson Taylor, 400 acres south of Tar River at the mouth of Wolf Trap Branch and bounded by John's Meadow, Bailey's Path, and the road; slave man, 4 cows and calves, and 32 year-old heifers; (8) son Drury Taylor, home plantation of 80 acres plus 370 adjoining and below the mouth of Wolf Trap Branch, south of Tar River adjoining Willson Taylor; slave boy, 4 cows and calves, feather bed and furnishings "which I desire may not be sold but kept for the Boy to lay on whilst he is small," and Lazarus Pope is to look after him until his brother Willson Taylor is old enough to do so; (9) daughter Priscilla, bed and furnishings, slave girl Hanna; (10) daughter Ann, slave boy; (11) son Kitt Taylor, 400 acres of land north of Tar River being "Britt's Plantation" on Long Branch, slave girl, 12 cows and calves; in case he dies, Wilson and Drury Taylor are to share his bequest; (12) daughter Seely Taylor, slave girl, "also the Feather Bed & furniture that I commonly lay on"; (13) daughter Molly, slave girl; (14) son and executor John Taylor, slave wench, cow and calf, and a yearling, "it being the Cattle we brought from Tuders"; (15) Jacob Strickland to care for Kitt and Seeley and their estates and (16) witnesses: Lazarus Pope, Gale (x) Bryant, and Edward Moore.[14]

In October Court, 1765, John Taylor presented the inventory of the late Arthur Taylor: Edward Ballard note £25, Gale Bryant £6, John Bone £26.13.4, John Pope £5.14.8, Christopher Clinch £1.10.0, William Tudor £5, Joseph War-

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(Arthur Taylor, continued from page 92)
ren £1.14.0, William Defnal £0.12.0, Jacob Tuder £0.11.0; 10 horses, 11 slaves, 11 sheep, 90 hogs and 22 black cattle "in Company with Willison," 17 black cattle in care of Benjamin Tann, 8 at Randolph Wade's, 49 cattle and a parcel of hogs at the home plantation, 12 geese, "one spelling Book," "one pocket Book," 2 men's saddles, bridle, gun, wearing apparel, pair of leather bags; broken case, 3 beds and furniture, 4 chairs, 3 chests, 2 trunks, pair of trusses; some wool, some yarn, crop of corn "at Merceys," crop of corn at Tuders place," remnant of cotton, 8 sides of leather, some brimstone; 2 tubs, 8 barrels, 3 hogsheads, 2 piggins; 2 woolen wheels, pair of cotton cards; 3 old harrow hoes, cart and wheels, grubbing hoe, 3 old axes, 4 weeding hoes, a half set of cart wheel boxes, hilling hoe, reap hook, spade, 4 plowhoes, cart and wheels, halter; 4 bells, 2 padlocks, whipsaw, file, crosscut saw, handsaw, 2 augers, adze , rasp, steel trap, 2 gimlets, grindstone, set of iron wedges, iron chain; box iron, iron dog, 2 frying pans, fire tongs, 3 iron pots, 2 pairs of pothooks, 3 basins, 5 plates, 2 dishes, 3 spoons, spoonmold; 2 pairs of steelyards, 4 mugs, pitcher, 3 stone bottles, quart bottle, saucepan, 2 pots, small basket "with sundrys," meal bag, pint measure, ink pot, and 5 vials.[15]

On January 14, 1766, and on November 14, 1766, Sheriff Joseph Moore of Edgecombe County sold 14 cows, 12 calves, and 17 yearlings, the "Cattle belonging to the orphans of Arthur Taylor decd.," for £44.12.2 and the purchasers were John Taylor, Jacob Stricklin, and Edward Moore, Esq.[16] On December 6, 1766, John Taylor and Edward Moore, Esq., purchased a tub, some old iron, jug, trunk, 5 sows and about 20 pigs, 17 old hogs of 3 years and 18 hogs of 4 years.[17]

In August Court, 1778, the accounts of the estate of Arthur Taylor in the hands of John Taylor, executor, since May 5, 1770, showed payments to Jacob Strickland, Edward Moore, James Hall, Samuel Delk (for John Edwards), John Tanner, Solomon Debery, Arthur Dew, Joseph Poland, Thomas Woodard, James Fergerson, John Thomas, John Dew, John Wilson, John Edwards, Lazarus Pope, Gail Bryant, Jo. Fergerson, Thomas Driver, James Bell, John Wilkinson, John Smelley, Samuel Ruffin, Duncan Lamon, Matthias Mannin, Micajah Thomas, James Wyche, and Blake Baker for a total of £250.0.6; the "Contra" items from the sales of the estate, the notes of Gail Bryant, John Bone, Solomon Joiner, and William Ballard, came to £187.7.3.[18]

Most of the personal property of Arthur Taylor had been sold on October 30, November 19, and December 5, 1765, and had realized a total of £123.16.3: 2 colts, 4 mares, young horse, 3 heifers, 3 bulls, "one Bull at Large," steer, yearling ram, 7 shoats, 68 hogs, 9 sheep, 5 large hogs, sow with 3 pigs, 3 horses, 47 cattle, "One hog at Large," and 2 sows and a shoat at Large; case of bottles, large chest, 4 chairs, chest; 3 stone mugs, frying pan, lot of pewter, vial, pair of spoon molds, 3 iron pots, pair of tongs, butter pot, pan, pewter pint pot; 8 barrels, 2 hogsheads, tub, piggin; handsaw, set of iron wedges, crosscut saw, iron dog, padlock, bag and iron chain, wolf trap, 2 augers, carpenter's adze, iron frow, chisel, gimlet, grindstone, whipsaw, old axe, 10 pounds of iron; 2 iron boxes and brimstone, reap hook, hilling hoe, 4 plow hoes, 2 pairs of steelyards, 2 weeding hoes, old wheel, halter, cart and wheels, 4 bells and collars, 2 bells; some corn, some fodder, 8 sides of leather, some leather, some wool, some yarn, "a Small Quantity of Negro Cotton," 3 parcels of lumber, linen wheel; saddle, old saddle, pair of leather bags, gun, shot mold, and 2 books.[19]

Children of Arthur and _____ Taylor:

1. Martha Taylor married Arthur Dew.
2. Benjamin Taylor
3. James Taylor
4. Wilson Taylor
5. Drury Taylor (of Nash County)
6. Priscilla Taylor married Jacob Strickland, Jr.
7. Ann Taylor
8. Christopher "Kit" Taylor
9. Celia Taylor
10. Molly Taylor, second wife of Arthur Dew
11. John Taylor

Sources

1. Isle of Wight County, Will Book 3, p.224.
2. Will Book 4, p.212.

2.A Surry County, Wills &c., 1738-1754, pp. 538/539.

3. Deed Book 6, pp. 120/123.
4. Halifax County, Deed Book 5, p. 421.
5. Deed Book 2, p. 7.
6. Deed Book 2, p. 84.
7. Southampton County, Deed Book 2, p. 55.
8. Deed Book 2, p. 112.
9. Deed Book 2, p. 164.
10. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 1, p. 35.
11. Deed Book C, p. 215
12. Deed Book C, p. 250.
13. Deed Book C, p. 447; Deed Book 0, p. 233.
14. Will Book A, pp. 163/165.
15. Record of Estates, 1764-1772, p. 12, Edgecombe County, in the North Carolina Department of Archives, Raleigh, N. C.
16. Op. cit., p. 24.
17. Op. cit., p. 25.
18. Edgecombe County, Will Book B, pp. 130/131.
19. Will Book B, pp. 129/130.

LUTHER MACK

***Wilson Daily Times*, April 23, 1917**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

A Genius.

There is a little negro in this town named Luther Mack, whose genius for mechanics should be developed and given unrestricted rein.

This boy, though only about 13 years old, has constructed an automobile all by himself and drives it along the streets.

With an engine closely resembling the one used in motorcycles, he made the connections with wire that he picked up around and the body he built out of a woodbox. It just shows what talent and application will do. The boy has a future before him if given an opportunity to apply the talents that are demonstrated in the toy auto.

WILLIAM RITTER DEED OF GIFT
Edgecombe County Deed Book 19, page 533

This Indenture made this the Twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen between William Writter of the County of Edgecombe & State of North Carolina of the one part and Elisha Ellis Senr., John Ellis, & Elisha Ellis Junr., William Webb & John Peele all of the County & State aforesaid of the other part, Trustees in trust for purposes herein after mentioned Witnesseth, that I the Said William Writter for and in consideration of having the Gospel preached in my neighborhood, and for divers other good causes resulting therefrom have given, granted, bargained, released & confirmed, & by these presents do give grant, bargan, release & confirm unto the Said Elisha Ellis Senr. John Ellis, Elisha Ellis Junr. William Webb & John Peele, Trustees in Trust for the uses & purposes herein after mentioned all the Estate, right, title & Interest whatsoever in and upon all & Singular a certain Lott or piece of ground Situate lying & being in the county & State aforesaid, & bounded as follows To Wit. — Beginning at a pine on the North Side of the great Branch on the main Road leading from Stantonsberg to Tarborough, & running with Said Road North 10° East 19 Pols to a black Gum & Water Oak bush on Said road. Thence N°. 80 W. 20 poles to a Pine in the dividing line between John Ellis & the Said William Writter, thence with Said dividing line So. 10 E. 21 Poles to a Poplar and pine in the edge of Said branch thence to the beginning So 88 E. 9 Poles. — containing and laid out for Two Acres more or less.-To have and to hold all and Singular the above mentioned lot or piece of ground together with all and Singular the House, woods Warters, ways & privileges thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining unto them the Said Trustees in Trust & their Successors in office. Provided that they Erect or build, or cause to be erected and built thereon a House for the purpose of religious worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal church exclusively and no others. — So long as the Said Trustees, or their successors in Office may keep up a house or place of worship thereon for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal church.- But provided the Said house should become defective & Rotton so as to render it unfit for the reception of a congregation in the position of Worshipers – and the Said Trustees or their Successors should refuse to repair Said House or build a new house for the Term of five Years the right of Said lot of ground Shall return.— But nevertheless the house shall be at the disposal of the Trustees. And I the Said William Writter do by these presents warrand & for ever defend all & Singular the before mentioned & described Lot of ground with the appurtenance thereto belonging unto them the Said Elisha Ellis Senr. Jonh Ellis, Elisha Ellis Junr. William Webb & John Peele and their Successors chosen by a majority of the above mentioned Trustees from time to time – from the claim, or claims of him the Said William Writter his heirs & assigns and from the claim or claims of all persons whatsoever. – In Witness whereof, I have unto Set my hand & Seal, the day and year above written

his
Signed, Sealed & delivered in presence of William + Ritter
L Ellis Enos Ellis mark

Edgecombe County February Court 1830.
The foregoing Deed of Gift was exhibited in open Court and proved by the oath of L. Ellis a Subscribing witness thereto – ordered to be recorded

Test Mich^{l}. Hearn C. C.

[Editor's note: Copied as written.

Elisha Ellis, Senior, named his wife Charity and nine children in his will: Elizabeth Ritter (wife of William Ritter), Dennis, John, Polly Jinkens (wife of Amos Jenkins), Elisha, Lewis, Emillia Little (wife of Bryant Little, son of John Little), Nancy Stalling (wife of Abraham Stallings), and Charles.

Elisha, Jr., was married to Temperance. Lewis Ellis, born May 1794, married Mary "Polly" Peelle, daughter of Robert Peelle, VI, and his wife Esther. Charles Ellis married Fannie Lewis, daughter of James and Fannie Lewis.

John Peele may have been John Jossey Peele, an uncle of Mary Peelle Ellis. John Jossey Peele, born January 25, 1777, son of Robert Peelle, V, and his wife Margaret B. Jossey, married Elizabeth Woodard, daughter of Elisha Woodard, Jr., and his wife Sarah Howell.]

MARTHA DAVIS SELBY LETTER
Hugh B. Johnston files

Friday April 1st. 59 [1859]

Dear Jimmy

A lot of us have been taking a chance in the "Gift or book enterprise," M^{rs}. Blow got up the club, and the package I presume will be directed to her.

M^{r}. Rhodes I hear is the Agent and as the package will stop at Wilson until the postage is paid, we wish you if you please to pay him and forward the package, & we will pay you. Our order left yesterday, and we may expect them sometime next week.

We are well. Our love to all of you.

Truly yours,
Aunt Matilda

Please mark the amount of postage on the Box.

The preceding letter was sent to Mr. James Davis of Wilson by his Aunt, Matilda Davis Selby, wife of Colonel John A. Selby of Washington. Colonel Selby built the house lately occupied by Larry I. Moore on North Goldsboro Street. One wonders exactly what sort of a project this was, but it was probably some sort of book club.

DEFINITIONS OF PROPERTY IN THE ARTHUR TAYLOR ARTICLE

A to Zax, A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists & Historians

Barbara Jean Evans

at large: free, not attached to one particular place
card: a tool used to smooth the nap of cloth; a tool with teeth used to comb wool fibers
brimstone: sulfur
cross-cut saw: a saw designed to cut across the grain of the wood, it became the saw most commonly used to fell trees
frow: a froe was a tool used by a hoop bender, a basket maker, and a gate hurdle maker
iron dog: andiron
negro cotton: a name for cheap material such as the material used in jeans or clothing worn for work
rasp: a tool used by a farrier and a carpenter
reap hook: a farmer's tool used in harvesting grain; a sickle
shoat: a young hog weighing about 100 to 180 pounds
sundries: when found in an inventory, this term means various small articles which are too numerous to mention individually

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The collection of books and microfilm is very extensive. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street entrance.

(Ashley Page, continued from page 91)

35. Wilson Co. Courthouse land records Bk. 39, pg. 105.
36. See source No. 12 above.
37. See source No. 32 above.
38. Boykin, *Wilson County Marriage Records*, pg. 729.
39. Howell, *Wilson County Census 1900*, pg. 250. No. 281. It is not known where they buried Catherine "Kate/Katie" Forbes Page. Her family today, so removed by time, did not remember where she was buried. Might she have been buried with her parents? Was she the one in the accidental farm mishap reported by Danny Wayne Robbins, Sr., in source No. 32? Since she spent so much time with her grandparents Ashley and Elizabeth Page and her own parents, would she not have wanted to be buried with them?
40. Same source above pg. 71, No. 95.
41. Edgecombe Co., N. C., marriage 21 December 1904.
42. Wilson County Courthouse land records, C. B. Walton deed from Mary Jane Forbes, Bk. 81, pgs. 469-470.
43. Conversations with Vera W. Stallings and Allen Felton of Macclesfield in 2005.
44. Ashley Thomas Page death certificate in Wilson County Courthouse, 1945.
45. See source No. 33 above.
46. See cemetery survey in No. 33 and interview No. 32 above.
47. See Albert R. Page, Sr., "My Page Pedigree," Wilson County Genealogical Society *Trees of Wilson*, March 1999, pg. 4.

PRE-1850 AGE CALCULATION METHOD

Jerry Merritt, NC/SC Mail List
Contributed by Horace B. Peele

One can often combine age data from several pre-1850 censuses to narrow the age range for a long ago ancestor who died before the 1850 census came along and got his actual age. I offer a relatively easy and fool proof way to make these age refinements.

The first thing you ought to have is a pre-1850 census age bracket cheat sheet. I use a short document that lists for each pre-1850 census the census day, the age bracket for each column and the range of birth years covered by each column in each census. This does away with simple math errors because it's pre-calculated.

Next you need some way to represent in a clear and simple fashion the possible years of birth for your ancestor from each census. The clearest and easiest way I know of to do this is to graph the years on a sheet of graph paper. The graph isn't complicated. It's just a straight horizontal line drawn from the earliest to the latest possible year. I'll show each possible year with an X. If your male ancestor was listed in the 5th column in the 1820 census, then according to the cheat sheet, he was born between 1775-1794—a pretty big spread. Graphed, it would be a line covering the 20 years from 1775 to 1794 like this:

1820 census 1775 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 1794

Now suppose you found him again in the 1830 census and his age was listed in the 6th column making him born 1790-1800. It is obvious that he must have been born 1790-1794. This drops the possible age spread from 20 years to 4 years. If you graphed these two age spreads, it would look like this:

1820 census 1775 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 1794
1830 census 1790 XXXXXXXXXX 1800

The overlap of the two lines is the new, refined age spread.

This looks almost too simple to bother graphing so let's look at a more complicated case.

Suppose your ancestor was 40-50 in 1830, was listed as under 16 in 1790, and was 16-26 in the 1800 census. What age bracket do you get when you combine these data? Go to your cheat sheet and find the spread of birth years represented by each column in each census and graph the data.

1790 census 1774 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 1790
1800 census 1774 XXXXXXXXXX 1784
1830 census 1780 XXXXXXXXXX 1790

You can see that he was actually born between 1780-1784 and that he fits the data in the 1790 census as well.

These are simple examples but more complex examples abound out there. Sometimes you can actually narrow it down to the exact birth year if everything works out just right. This simple technique, however, works just as easily on those harder examples.

[Editor's note: A pre-1850 census age bracket "cheat sheet" was included in the November 1998 issue of *Trees.*]

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 802
Wilson, NC 27894
252-243-1660
www.wcgs.org

Stantonsburg, Page, Ritter, Taylor

September 2006

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___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900. $40.00
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___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00 (tax included) **NEW**

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882 $5.00
___ Wilson County Waterways $5.00

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___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation $5.00 shipping included
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___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township) $5.00
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Payment and shipping: Shipping cost for each book is $3.00. Shipping cost for maps is $3.00 for 1-4 items.
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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

October 2006 **Volume 15 Number 9**

President's Message

Did your ancestor emigrate from North Carolina to a more southern state in 1816? Did your ancestor die in the winter of 1857, 1876, or 1886?

Have you thought about how weather conditions might have played a role in the lives of your ancestors? It might have been more significant than you realized.

The year of 1816 in North Carolina was known as the "Year without a Summer," due to a massive volcanic eruption on the other side of the world. Winter conditions continued until June causing farmers to plant late, and the cold kept the seeds from sprouting. It was reported that birds froze in June, that it frosted all summer and snowed in August. Very little corn matured, and in many places people almost starved. Most likely, many families were ready to seek warmer climates and a fresh start farther south.

The winter of 1857 was so hard that the Tar River froze over as far east as Pitt County with ice thick enough for people to travel over it. In 1876-77, the snow fell deep in December and stayed around until the middle of February. In January 1886, the Tar River was again frozen.

There were hurricanes, flooding, hailstorms, and droughts. Weather most certainly made a difference in the success or failure of the farmers' crops. How great was the impact on the family?

The Signal Office began collecting records of surface land observations in 1819. The Smithsonian Institution records of weather data began in 1847. Even earlier records can be found in miscellaneous papers. National Archives stores these records.

Sue Powell

OCTOBER 31ST MEETING
Wilson County Public Library
7:00 PM

We will meet in the Conference Room, reached by crossing the entrance "lobby," going up a few steps beyond the circulation desk, then through the adult fiction section of books. If you were able to fly to the Conference Room, you would almost make a straight line from the library entrance.

During the brief business session, the officers for 2007 will be elected. The slate as presented by the nominating committee was approved by acclamation. They are:

President: Sue Powell
Vice-President: Phil Mooring
Secretary: Frances Roberson
Treasurer: Henry Powell
Member of the Board: Jane Poston

Our speaker for the evening will be Keith Barnes, author and photojournalist with the *Wilson Daily Times*. Keith has spent several years researching and collecting material and photographs on the history of the tobacco industry in Wilson County. He has compiled this information into a book which is in the final stages of production. Even though the book is not yet available to the public, Keith has agreed to give us an insight into the results of his research.

Keith's earlier book, *Whatever Happened to the Milkman? & other major topics of our time,* is filled with memories of "the way it was" in Wilson, his hometown.

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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON
Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them. [Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We started this series of letters in the May issue and will continue the letters in future issues of *Trees.*]

Wilson, N. C.
Jan. 3, '99

Dear Nip:

... Arriving so late [from Petersburg], with nearly a mile to go, I put up at the hotel—economizing by not taking any breakfast. ... At school I found a pretty full grade—of course with no lessons prepared, so I attempted to hear none. ... My new boarding place promises to be everything desirable. Last night the Bapt. Parson and a Miss Clark were invited to tea, and we had quite an enjoyable time. Miss Clark is the belle of the town, and a young woman of very superior qualities. Her piano playing is superb. Both the parson and my former roommate have schorched their wings on her flame. ...

Your Bro. C. C. C.

- - - - -

Wilson, N. C.
Feb. 24, '99

Dear Nip:

... It's getting the season now when teachers look out for next session's positions; and like the crab about to

(Continued on page 98)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 97)

change his shell, I'm getting quite fidgety. Once and awhile I'm taken up on a great wave of ambition. … I shall hold some summer institutes this summer that will bring me into some prominence. …

We had our Small-Pox scare too. A strange darkey came here and was seen on the streets all broken out with Small-Pox, of course. Within ten days there were five other cases in town. Now the doctors don't believe there was any Small Pox. Neither Temp nor I were vaccinated. The only disease I suffer with is a persistent cold. …

Your Bro,
C. C. C.

- - - - -

Wilson, N. C.
Mar. 27, '99

Dear Nip:

… Tomorrow I am to address the school-teachers on "Old Greek Education." Having been requested to do so just this afternoon I have done no studying on the subject so far. …

Hurriedly
Your Bro. C. C. C.

1835 STAGE COACH TRIP

Harriet Martineau, *Society in America*

We had traveled from Richmond, Virginia, the day before and had not had any rest, when, at midnight we came to a river which had no bridge. The "scow" had gone over with another stage and we stood under the stars for a long time, hardly less than an hour. The scow as only just large enough to hold the coach and ourselves; so that it was thought safest for the passengers to alight and go aboard on foot. In this process I found myself over the ankles in mud.

A few minutes after we had driven on again on the opposite side of the river, we had to get out to change coaches; after which we proceeded without accident, but very slowly, till daylight. Then the stage sank down into a deep rut, and the horses struggled in vain. We were informed that we were "mired" and must all get out. I stood for some time to witness what is very fine for one, but wearisome when it occurs ten times a day. The driver carries an axe as part of the stage apparatus. He cuts down a young tree for a lever, which is introduced under the nave of the sunken wheel; a log serving for a block. The gentle passengers all help, shouting to the horses which tug and scramble vigorously as the gentlemen. We ladies sometimes gave our humble assistance by blowing the driver's horn. Sometimes a cluster of negroes would assemble from a neighboring plantation and in extreme cases would bring horses to add to our team. The rescue from the rut was effected in any time from a quarter of an hour to two hours.

Half a mile before reaching the place where we were to have tea the thorough-brace broke, and we had to walk through a snow shower to the inn. We had not proceeded above a quarter of a mile from this place when the traces broke. After this we were allowed to sit still in the carriage til nearly seven in the morning when we were approaching Raleigh, North Carolina. We then saw a carriage "mired" and deserted by driver and horses but tenanted by some travelers who had been waiting there since eight the evening before. While we were pitying their fate, our vehicle once more sank into a rut. It was however, extricated in a short time and we reached Raleigh in safety.

[Editor's note: We apologize to those who may have read this before. For those who have not previously read it, we have included it as interesting information on travel conditions of that time period.]

WILSON IN 1865

Excerpt from "Henry Groves Connor," An Address by Frank Daniels

Wilson County Public Library Vertical File

My mother, with her sons, came to Wilson in 1865, ...

The little village, about the time of which I speak, contained about a thousand souls, was the center of a farming community and the market and shipping point for cotton and large quantities of turpentine and rosin produced in the neighboring territory. The only industrial plants, as I now remember, within the limits of the town, were the foundry of Farmer & Wainwright, situate on the south side of Goldsboro Street where it crosses the A. C. L. Railroad, and their plow shop on the same street and near the court house square; the buggy shop of George H. Griffin on Goldsboro Street, where the city hall now stands; the buggy shop of W. N. Hackney on the north side of Nash Street nearly in front of the Briggs Hotel; a turpentine still on Tarboro Street on a lot adjoining the Primitive Baptist Church lot, and a cotton gin. There were two hotels: The Battle House, on the south side of Barnes Street, near the old Wilmington and Weldon depot, and the Adams House, on the north side of Barnes Street, fronting the Primitive Baptist Church lot. Each of these hotels had a two-story main building and a string of single-story rooms, stretching a block away, which were known as offices. It was a tradition that the main buildings were reserved for families and ladies while the offices were assigned to gentlemen inclined to be wild or whose habits were unknown, or in doubt. M. Rountree & Company were the leading merchants, and I recall Edwin G. Clark, E. Rosenthal, and W. M. Gay as engaged in the mercantile business. There were also other merchants dealing in merchandise that cheered, sometimes inebriated, and often depressed their customers, who sold whiskey and brandy with as good conscience as M. Rountree & Company sold the plow points of Farmer & Wainwright and the "Nord Homespun" from the mills of New England, and some of these, practicing the strictest economy, grew rich. As was general all over the country, there was much drinking and drunkenness among the male population, but a respectable woman practicing these vices was unheard of.

There were in the village four churches: the Primitive Baptist, leading all others in numbers and influence, and having for many years as its chief pastor my old and valued friend, the able and devout Elder P. D. Gold; the Methodist and the Missionary Baptist of small membership, but actively engaged in religious work, and the Episcopal Church, having the smallest membership, but having a tower of strength in its great layman, that Christian gentleman and devoted churchman, Thomas C. Davis.

David S. Richardson, a great teacher, who enjoyed the affectionate regard of his students and of the community, despite his insistence upon thoroughness and a discipline that spared not the rod, conducted a school in the old Female College over which, before the Civil War, Rev. Charles F. Deems, a great Methodist preacher, had presided on the site of the present residence of James T. Wiggins, Esq. He was succeeded by George W. Arrington, an admirable teacher, highly esteemed by all our people.

The Wilson Collegiate Institute for Young Ladies, under the management of Prof. J. De B. Hooper, a scholar of culture and refinement, before the Civil War professor of Latin and Modern Languages, and afterwards professor of Greek and French, in the University of North Carolina, with his Associate Principal, his father-in-law, Rev. Dr. William Hooper, son of William Hooper, signer of the Declaration of Independence, a Baptist minister of great usefulness, and a scholar of accurate and varied scholarship and literary power, was conducted in the school building on the east side of the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, which had been used during the War as a hospital for Confederate soldiers.

Afterwards, in the 70's, Elder Sylvester Hassell, calling to his assistance an able faculty composed of Edward M. Nadal, J. B. Brewer, J. B. Williams, David G. Gillespie and Joseph H. Foy, upon the site last mentioned, founded the Wilson Collegiate Institute, a co-educational school, which for years ministered to the moral and intellectual life of the youth of this community and much of Eastern North Carolina. The wisdom, learning, gentle breeding and high character of these great teachers seemed to me, even in my immature boyhood, a benediction to our people, and especially to the aspiring youth who was so fortunate as to live in close association with them. What rare quality was in this atmosphere that touched, inspired and, in a large measure, transfigured the lives of Dunham, Shepherd, Kenan, Murray, Woodard, Aycock, and Connor, to name only some outstanding figures that are gone!

THE COMING OF THE RAILROAD

The village of Toisnot started at the intersection of two Indian paths. As early roads were built, travelers from Raleigh to Tarboro or Greenville passed through the small settlement. The intersection with the Tarborough to Smithfield/ Fayetteville road was nearby. By 1803, the village was known as Hickory Grove, and in 1849, when the town was incorporated, it was changed to Wilson.

As a crossing point for travelers, the town grew slowly. However, the conditions of the roads were not an inducement for travel. By the 1830's, construction began on a railroad to link Wilmington to Weldon to connect with another line that had already been built from Petersburg, Virginia. Construction began October 25, 1836. The Wilmington to Weldon Railroad completed its tracks through what is now Wilson County with stops at Bardin's Depot (Black Creek), Toisnot (Wilson), and Joyner's Depot (Elm City) by October 1839. The completed railroad at 161.5 miles was supposedly the longest railroad in the world at that time.

The formal opening of the railroad was celebrated on April 5, 1840. The village of Toisnot became the shipping center for wide areas. Stagecoaches were filled with passengers coming to Toisnot to board the trains. Rail connections went north to Richmond and south to Columbia, South Carolina. From Wilmington, travelers could take a steamboat to Charleston, South Carolina.

The railroad station was located on Barnes Street. The fare from Weldon to Wilmington was five dollars, and the trip took about twelve hours. The train averaged fourteen miles an hour.

RICHARD BRASWELL PROPERTY DIVISION
Wayne County Estate Records, C.R. 103.508.23
Contributed by Grace W. Turner

State of N°. Carolina

In pursuance of an Order of Wayne County Court we the subscribers have meet and divided the Lands & apportenances thereunto belonging, the late property of Richard Braswell Senr. late of the s^{d}. County dec^{d}. amongst his widow Elizabeth Braswell, and his five sons, to wit Richard, Sampson, Shad^{k}. David & Jesse Braswell, in the following manner viz.

to the said widow Elizabeth Braswell, during her natural life we have aloted & sett of the manoror plantation, with all the appurtenances, and all the Land belonging to s^{d}. tract except, about thirty acres at the lower end of s^{d}. tract, laid of and aloted to s^{d}. Jesse Braswell by a line begining on Nawhunta Marsh at a pine and runs a line to an Other pine, from thence a line of markt trees to the s^{d}. Marsh from thence to the beginning;

we have laid of and aloted to Richard Braswell Junr. the plantation tract of Land &c whereon he now lives Containing One Hundred Acres, also One Other tract adjoining thereunto Containing Twenty four Acres, Conveyed to s^{d}. Dec^{d}. by John Yelverton that being his s^{d}. Rich^{d}. Braswell Junr.'s dividen.

Unto Shad^{k}. Braswell we have laid of and aloted the mannor plantation after the death of his mother, with the appurtenances and all the land belonging to s^{d}. tract, above a line of markt trees made between him & David Braswell, begining at a little Gum in the Edge of the s^{d}. Marsh near where an Old House stood in the clear'd Ground, and runs out to the back line and all the land belonging to the s^{d}. manner plantation, together with the appurtenances;

within the bounds below the last mention'd line of markt trees & that of Jesse Braswell's land before mention'd we have laid of and allotted to David Braswell, after the death of his s^{d}. mother;

likewise we have laid of and aloted to him s^{d}. Shad^{k}. and David Braswell, thirty acres of pine woods land part of a tract patented by Elias Fort, by the following bounds to witt, beginning at an Oak the patent Corner, and runs with the same S°. 8 W^{t}. 34 pole to a pine, then N°. 80 W to a pine in the patent line, thence with the patent line N°. 50 E^{t}. to the Corner, thence with the patent line S°. 80 E^{t}. 122 pole the Corner the begining, to be equally divided between s^{d}. Shad^{k}. & David Braswell, this being their dividen

To Sampson Braswell afores^{d}. we have for his dividen laid of and allotted Two Hundred acres part of s^{d}. tract patented by s^{d}. Elias Fortt, bounded as followeth to witt, beginning at a maple in the Orchard Branch, in the patent line, and runs N°. 65 W^{t}. to a red Oak in the first line of the said patent, thence with the same N°. 15 E^{t}. 175 pole to a Gum in a pond, thence S°. 65 E^{t}. 184 pole to a dead Oak near W^{m}. Martin's plantation, from thence with the patent line S°. 8 W^{t}. to a Corner pine, from thence S°. 62 W^{t}. with patent line 100 pole to the beginning.

And unto Jesse Braswell afores^{d}. for his dividen we have laid of and allotted all the remainder part of the Said tract of Land patented by said Elias Fortt, supposed to Contain Two Hundred acres, and also the s^{d}. thirty acres of the s^{d}. tract belonging to the said mannor plantation, at the lower end

Thereof by the bounds before mention'd, all which s^{d}. parcels or dividene of Land to be & belong to the s^{d}. Rich^{d}. Braswell Junr., Sampson Braswell, Shad^{k}. Braswell, David Braswell & Jesse Braswell severally & respectively as afores^{d}. to them & each of them & each of their Heirs & assigns forever. The before mention'd Lands are all situate in s^{d}. County of Wayne & on the N°. side of Nawhunta Swamp. Given Under our Hands the 12th of Jany. 1789

Richard Bracewell
Sampson Bracwell
Shadrach Brswell
David Brecwell
Jesse Bracwell

[Editor's note: The above document was written as one paragraph. Paragraph divisions were added to assist the reader. The signatures were difficult to read and may have been transcribed with errors.]

(Continued on page 101)

THE DIVISION OF THE PERSONAL PROPERTY OF RICHARD BRASWELL

Wayne County Estate Records, C.R. 103.508.23

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

The widows Parte of the other Property

One Negro wench named Rose
One Mare
Foure Cows & Calves
Foure Ews
Eight year old Hoggs
Two Sows & pigs
Six Gallons of Brandy
One Bedd & furniture
One Bedstead
The Bigg Chest
One tub
One pale
One pigen
One plow hoe
One weading hoe
One ax
One gruben hoe
Two Setting Chears
One Dish
Two Basons
Six Spoons
Three Plaits
One flask bottle with Sperrits of Brandy
One bigg Pot
One frying Pan
One Linen wheal
One Woollen D°
One pare of Cotton Cards
One Meal Sive
One Tray
One Smoothing Iron
One bee gum
The Knives & forks
One Mugg
One Bigg Jugg
One Hundrede weight of Cotton
Fifty weight of Flax from the Brake
Three pound of wool
Twenty five Barrell of Corn & fodder to winter S^{d}. Cows & Calves

Richard Bracewell Parte

One Negro named Patience
One filley
four Head of Cattle
Ten Head of Hoggs
2 Head of Sheep
Ten Barrells & a half corn
Sum foddon
12½ lb of Feathers
8 Gallons 7 pints Brandy

Sampson Bracewell Parte

One Negro named Luis
One Horse
Four Head of Cattle
Ten head of Hoggs
2 sheep
10½ Barrells of Corn
som fodder
12½ lb of Feathers
eight gallons & 7 pints of Brandy

Shadrach Bracewell Part

One Negro named Jack
Four Head of Cattle
Ten Head of Hoggs
3 Head of Sheep
10½ Barrells of Corn
som fodder
12½ lb of Feathers
Eight Gallons & 7 Pints of Brandy

David Bracewell Parte

One Negro named Mingo &
Thirty pounds in Money
Three Head of Cattle
Ten Heads of Hoggs
2 Head of Sheep
10½ Barrells of Corn
12½ lb of Feathers
sum fodder
8 gal. 7 pt Brandy

Jesse Bracewell Parte

One Negro named Rachel
One Horse
Five Head of Cattle
Eight Head of Hoggs
2 Sheep
10½ Barrells of Corn
som foder
12½ of Feathers
Eight Gallons & 7 Pints of Brandy

[Editor's note: This document was written as paragraphs with divisions for each heir. For ease in reading, it has been converted into a list. All spelling is recorded as it was on the original document. The eight gallons and seven pints of brandy may have been marked through in Richard and Sampson's parts.

Richard Braswell, Sr., may have had a daughter (or stepdaughter) as Elizabeth Bracewell made a deed of gift to her daughter Nance Sauls, reserving a lifetime estate, on August 16, 1802.

On November 3, 1796, David Braswell sold to Mark Heath of Glasgow County, N. C., part of a tract of land that was granted to Richard Braswell by patent bearing the date of July 11, 1739. Shad Braswell was witness.

Source: *Kinfolks of Wayne County, North Carolina, 1793-1832,* by Joseph W. Watson]

SAMUEL WINSTEAD DESCENDANTS
Contributed by Joan Winstead

[Editor's note: Mrs. Winstead phoned us with an unusual request. She had a large banner (5' by 15') outlining the Winstead family from the immigrant to her husband's family. Since her husband had passed away, she wanted to give the banner to someone who would appreciate the value of the information that it contains and preserve it properly.

We accepted the banner hoping that we would be able to find such a person or persons. We hope that there is someone out there who would like to have this treasure. It would be a great display at Winstead Family Reunions!

The information contained on it is presented here except for the last generation which was omitted for the protection of those who are still living. Mrs. Winstead donated her research to the Wilson County Public Library. Her documentation is filed there for those who would like to review it.

Please contact us if you are interested in becoming the proud new owner of the banner.]

Samuel Winstead, 1658-1726, married Elizabeth, 1685-1726, both born in England, died in Northumberland County, Virginia

Samuel, 1701-1774, son of Samuel and Elizabeth, married four times, died in Northumberland County, Virginia. His first wife was Elizabeth, 1705-1723, and they had two or three known children:

John (?)

Betty, born 1720

Daniel, 1721-1748, married Elizabeth, and they had Samuel, John, Mary, Elizabeth, James, and Daniel

Samuel and his second wife (name unknown) had one child

Samuel, 1723-1807, married Elizabeth, and they had John, Mandley, Cottence, Elizabeth, Suzannah, Aicie, and Charles Brown

Samuel and his third wife (name unknown) had seven children:

James, born 1730, married Choloe, and they had James, born 1771, William, John Haynie, Samuel, born 1783

George, 1733-1764, married Ann Sargent, and they had Samuel

Susanna, born 1736

Peter, 1739-1816, married Elizabeth

Richard, 1740-1792, married Susanna, and they had Samuel, born 1771

Jeremiah, 1740-1803, married Catey, and they had Jenny, Winnifred, Jeremiah, Jr., 1775-1853, married first Pheraby Batts, second Nancy Winstead

Joseph, 1740-1794, married Ann, both born and married in Northumberland County, Virginia, died in North Carolina (See next section for their descendants.)

Samuel and his fourth wife Winnifret had five children:

Frances, 1758-1842, married Catherine, and they had Ezekiel Hill, born 1775; Sallie; Francis, born 1780; Matthew; and William

Winnifred, born 1762

Thomas, 1764-1852, married Penny Winstead, born 1780

David, 1770-1848, married first Barbara Pope, second Temperance Barnes, third Elizabeth Williams, 1775-1852

Hannah, born 1772

Virginia to North Carolina

Joseph Winstead, son of Samuel, Jr., and his unknown third wife, and wife Ann had six children:

George, 1760-June 1789, married first Rosamond Jackson, who married second Drewry Taylor. George and Rosamond had Samuel, born 1828

Sarah, born 1763, married John Poland

Nancy, born 1765, married John Cockrell

Elizabeth, born 1768, married John Bone, 1765-1824

Susanna, 1770-May 1842, married John Vick, died October 1826. Their children were Catherine, married Dempsey Winstead; Nancy; Josiah; and Little Grandberry

Joseph, 1774-August 1823, married Sarah, 1765-1837, lived in Edgecombe County. They had nine children:

Penny, born about 1780, married Thomas Winstead, 1764-1852

Nancy, c. 1783-c. 1865, married Jeremiah Winstead, 1783-1853. They were first cousins once removed. They had Jincy; Mary, born 1806, married William Batts; a female born 1808; a female born 1810; Sallie, born 1820; Martha, married Edmund Williams

Zilpha, born c. 1785, married Elias Davenport

Chaney, born c. 1785, married Edward (Hardy) Williford, born 1795

Charity, born c. 1788, married Harmon Williford, born 1785

(Continued on Page 103)

(Samuel Winstead, continued from page 102)

Elijah, 1789-c. 1875, married Tassey Joiner, 1797?-c. 1886, lived in Edgecombe County. (See next section for their children.)

Polly, born c. 1795, married Bryant Winstead. They were first cousins one removed. They had two male and two female children.

Male child, born c. 1795

Joseph, born c. 1796, married Polly Joiner, born c. 1800. They had William, born 1821, married Louisa, born 1820; Mary, born 1830; John, born 1836; Joseph, born c. 1820, married Nancy Land

Elijah, son of Joseph and Sarah, and Tassie Winstead had twelve children:

Male, born 1816?
Female, born 1818?
Male born 1819?
Male, born 1820?
George W., 1822-1906, married Mary G. Ellis, born 1828. They had seven children:
- George R., 1868-1912, married Minnie Lancaster
- Charles, born 1856, married Manney, born 1873
- Francis M., 1851-1914, married Lou E.
- Mary G.
- Mattie (Martha), August 1861-January 1918
- Orren J., 1859-1902
- Jordan F., 1855-1903, married Julia K.

Mollie, born 1828?
Christina, 1829-1862, married James Ellis
Edwin, 1831-1919, married first Elizabeth Ellis, 1829-1902?, and they had five children:
- Frances, born 1852
- Missourie, born 1855
- John R., born 1857, married Martha
- Napoleon, born 1859
- William Edmond, born 1869

Edwin married second Mary Jane Bridgers, 1857?-1934, and they had five children: Joe, Gertha, Bella, J. Daniel, and Wm Elijah

Redmond, 1831-1908, married first Mary "Polly" Lee, 1834-1902, and they had eight children. He married second Aquilla Williford, 1850-1915. (See next section for the children.)
Mary Ann, 1837-1914, married Willie "Birt" Flowers, born 1834
E. A. (Edmond?, Elijah?), born c. 1839
W. C. (William), 1841-August 21, 1862

Redmond, son of Elijah and Tassie, and Polly Winstead had eight children:

Robert (Roberson) Wesley, 1854-1927, married first Elizabeth Wells, born 1855, second Maggie Edmonds. Robert had eight children:
- Mary Jane, 1876-1950, married R. T. Fisher
- Christiana, 1878-1973, married A. J. Woodard
- Benjamin E., 1890-1974, married first Lula Bell, second Flossie Struthers
- Della, 1903-1985
- Jacob, 1905-1978, married Lilla Bell
- Naomi, born 1907, married Ernest Marks
- Reba, 1915-1965

Roxanna, 1857-1918, married Henry Jordan
Wiley Atkinson, 1859-1907, married Julia Wells, 1860-1930, and they had nine children:
- John Redmond, 1880-1906, married Fannie Tippett Lee, 1876-1918, and they had Johnnie
- Dora, 1882-1942, married Grover C. Wood, 1884-1947, and they had six children.
- Isaiah, 1884-1947, married first Luna Jordan, 1896-1927, second Emma Ayers, born 1908. Isaiah had thirteen children.
- Nurnie Roscoe, 1886-1956, married Ellen Ruffin, 1893-1975, and they had ten children
- Edmondson A., 1888-1972, married Katie Langley, 1896-1973, and they had five children.
- Rhoda Ann Elizabeth "Bettie," 1890-1906
- Elijah B., 1893-1955

(Continued on page 104)

(Samuel Winstead, continued from page 103)

Vastie (Roxann), 1896-1979, married Whaylon Jobe, 1894-1945, and they had one child.

Manila, 1899-1977, married Adrian Dewey Langley, 1898-1965, and they had seven children.

Rhoda Ann, 1862-1907, married Richardson (Roberson) Williford, 1853-1930, and they had three children:

Rosella married Herbert Winstead

Mary

Martha

Richard Bunyan, 1866-1934, married first Mary Ida Landin, second Mary Etta Williamson. Richard had nine children:

William Jody

Roy Richard, married Lessis Hendricks

Emma Lee, born 1891

Claudie, born 1891

Mollie, born 1897, married Lummie Parker

Gary, born 1902

Floyd D., born 1903

Patty M., born 1907

Raymond Hugh, 1909-1984, married Minnie Gardner

Redmond Culbreth, 1871-1940, married Fannie S. Jackson, 1873-1940. They had eight children:

Lula B., 1891-1906

John C., 1894-1973, married Alta Coggins, 1891-1965[1]

Redmond, born 1896, married Annie Hawkins, and they had four children.

W. Clifton, born 1897, married Kate Batts[2]

Laura Foster

Infant, died 1904

Daughter, 1907-1908

Son, 1909-1909

Nancy Etta, 1873-1947, married John Turner, and they had four children:

Maggie, 1893-1927, married Dotson Winstead, 1879-1950

Myrta, born 1894

Emma Lee, 1896-1910

Lloyd Henry, born 1900

Rufus Asbury 1878-1950, married Fannie Batts, 1876-1957, and they had eight children:

Harvey, married Christine Langley

Ethel, married Charles O'Briant

Carol, married S. C. Perry

Cornell, married Grace

Nettie, married Warren

Jimmie, married Beatrice Edwards

Leaston R., married Mae Mercer

Mary Grayson

[1] The banner was unclear; however, it appeared that John C. and Alta had three children, maybe four.

[2] The banner was unclear; however, it appeared that W. Clifton and Kate had three children, maybe four.

FRANCES LEWIS WINSTEAD OBITUARY

***Zion's Landmark*, October 1, 1934**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

FRANCES LEWIS WINSTEAD.

It has become my sad duty to write an obituary notice of my very dear aunt, Fannie Lewis Winstead. I know without the Lord's help I cannot do her justice. She was such a bright Christian and a dear mother in Israel. I have lived with her over five years and I miss her as I would my own dear mother. She was my companion all the time, both day and night. I heard her every groan and went to her many times to administer to her needs, and oh how I have missed her I can never tell. But I would not call her back if I could, for I saw her suffer so much. She would often say, Oh, Mattie, I wish it was all over with me. She was so humble and submissive in her last sickness.

Aunt Fannie was the daughter of Reddin and Sallie Lewis, and was born December 3rd, 1853, and was relieved of all her suffering the 28th of March, 1934, making her stay on earth 80 years and three months and 24 days. She was married to Francis Marion Winstead, December 12th, 1882. She was the mother of four children, two dying in infancy and two sons survive her.

She united with the church at Wilson, N. C., March the 22nd, 1884, and moved her membership to Elm City, N. C., Nov. 22, 1919, where she made her home. She was a very faithful member until death. She was called the mother of the church, and was always interested in the welfare of the church, always filling her seat as long as health would permit. It was a great joy to her to prepare for the brethren and sisters to visit her. She would always brighten up as they would come in. She was confined to her bed only one week to the day, and would say all through her sickness that it was the last. The first time that Dr. B. F. Barnes came in to see her she asked him to be with her in passing out, and her request was granted as he was by her bed until she breathed her last. …

Her funeral was conducted by Elder E. L. Cobb, her nephew and Elder T. H. B. Pridgen, her pastor, and they both spoke very comfortingly to the bereaved family and many friends that were present. She was laid to rest in Elm City cemetery, near her church she loved so well. She leaves to mourn her loss two sons, D. Roy Winstead, of Norfolk, Va., and George C. Winstead of Rocky Mount, N. C., who was so faithful to his mother, two granddaughters and one grandson, one brother R. S. Lewis of Dinwiddie, Va., and a host of nieces and nephews, relatives and friends, … . She was loved by everybody that knew her as she possessed such a pleasant and cheerful disposition.

I do hope to meet Aunt Fannie some sweet day in that happy home above where there will be no more parting and all will be love and happiness. May the good Lord be with her children and direct their steps to walk and live as their dear mother and die in the Faith as she did, and may He be with us all is the sincere desire of one that loved her.

Written by request of some of the brethren at Elm City church.

Her niece who is very sad and lonely,

Elm City, N. C. Mattie L. Jarrell.

BARNES SIMMS

Hugh B. Johnston files

[Editor's note: Mr. Johnston's hand written note indicated that he copied this family record July 29, 1974. He further noted that Martha Dew, wife of Barnes Simms, was of the fifth generation of the Dew family.]

Barnes Simms, Esquire, son of Robert Simms and wife Mary Barnes, lived in Wayne (now Wilson) County. He was born in Wayne County in 1764 and died there in 1805. He was a Justice of the Peace and was in 1803 Second Major of the Wayne County Militia Regiment. (G. O. 148. List of Justices of the Peace, 1800-1810, in the N. C. State Archives)

In the Wayne County Census of 1790, he was listed with himself, one male under sixteen, one female, and two slaves. (p. 150) He married about 1787 Martha Dew, daughter of Arthur Dew and wife Martha Taylor of Edgecombe County. She was born about 1768 and died on August 9, 1831. They apparently had eleven children, and the dates of their births have been estimated from James and Elizabeth's known dates.

Barnes Simms, Esq., made his will on September 6, 1805, and it was probated in November Court, 1805: (1) wife and executrix Martha Simms, use of 100 acres (formerly deeded by James to Nathan Cobb) "including my present Dwelling," use of the lower cornfield on Contentnea Creek and the woodland towards the Creek; use of five or six cleared acres west of said field; also, the cornfield where David Pair lives; gift of 3 slaves, young mare "Fancy," two-year-old horse "Black," bay yearling mare, 5 cows with calves, all sheep, 2,500 pounds of pork, all breeding sows and pigs, half the farming utensils, 2 best feather beds and furnishings, large iron pot, iron kettle, half the rest of the kitchen furnishings; (2) son Larry Simms, $600.00; (3) son Robert Simms, ditto; (4) daughter Sarah, $400.00; (5) daughter Mary, ditto; (6) daughter Elizabeth, ditto; (7) daughter Patience, ditto; (8) son James, a fourth of the lands; (9) son John, ditto; (10) son David, ditto: (11) son Britton, ditto; (12) 4 slaves to be sold after James reaches 19, but their labor meanwhile to support and school the children; rest of the household furnishings and 3 cows with calves to be used for rearing the children and then to be sold; 3 slaves to be sold now to raise the cash legacies; (13) brother and executor Benjamin Simms; (14) friend and executor Jeremiah Horn; (15) witnesses Thomas Horn, Arthur Dew, Abraham Simms, and J. Pickering. (File 122, Office of Clerk of the Wayne County Court)

On December 12, 1805, Executors Martha Simms and Benjamin Simms reported the sale of the personal estate of Barnes Simms to have £783.2.8. (Record 1, p. 23). In May 1810, Isaac Dickinson, Ephraim Daniel, and Arthur Bardin were appointed to settle the estate of Barnes Simms with his Executors, and the total account current reported on August 7, 1810, was £961.4.3½. (Record 1, p. 289)

On August 26, 1832, W. R. Thomas, Jeremiah Horne, and Jesse Barnes were the Commissioners who divided the 271 acres of land of the late Martha Simms: (1) Ann, wife of Ezekiel Smith, 24 acres; (2) heirs of Robert Simms, 32 acres; (3) James Dew Simms, 30 5/7 acres; (4) John Simms, ditto; (5) David Simms, ditto; (6) Mary, wife of Stephen Woodard, ditto; (7) Patience Simms, ditto; (8) Sarah, wife of William Hollowell, ditto; and (9) Elizabeth, wife of Wm. Woodard, ditto. (Edgecombe County Deed Book 20, p. 290)

Children of Barnes and Martha Dew Simms:

1. Larry Simms was born in 1788 and died childless before 1832.
2. Robert Simms was born in 1790 and died before May 1825. He married Zillah Morris. [Zillah Morris Simms married secondly on May 8, 1825, to Lewis Ellis.]
3. Mary Simms was born in 1792 and married Stephen Woodard, Sr., of Wayne County.
4. Sarah "Sally" Simms was born in 1794 and married William Hollowell of Johnston County.
5. James Dew Simms was born on July 4, 1797. He married a daughter of Lemuel and Anna Daniel.
6. John Simms was born in 1798 and is untraced.
7. Elizabeth Simms was born in 1800 and married William Woodard, Sr., of Edgecombe County.
8. Patience Simms was born in 1802 and married Nathan Cooke.
9. David Simms was born in 1804 and is untraced.
10. Britton Simms was born in 1804 and died before 1832, without children.
11. Ann Simms was born in 1806 and married Ezekiel Smith of Wayne County.

THEY WERE THE OLDEST [?]

Historical Writings, Hugh Buckner Johnston

[Editor's note: This unpublished collection of articles was compiled by Mr. Johnston in 1986, bound and shelved in the Wilson County Public Library.]

Isaac Lamm's Age

The Goldsboro Headlight of August 4, 1898, referred to Isaac Lamm of Taylor's Township in Wilson County as one hundred and eleven years of age and the "oldest in the State." After examining the Censi of 1860, 1870, and 1880, we must conclude that he was born about 1802, and that he was a mere ninety-six years old. In 1860 he was worth $4,300 and had wife Mary born in 1810 and children Mary, Theresa, Celia, Willey, Delpha, Kesiah, Jesse, Isaac, and Penina born between 1830 and 1850. They could represent an impressive number of descendants living in our area at the present day!

How Old Was Dempsey Gardner?

The Tarboro Southerner of March 31, 1870, said that "The oldest Edgecombe Man" was believed to be Dempsey Gardner, aged 113 and still of good health and sound mind, while his wife was aged 90 years. The issue of February 22, 1872, indicated that he had died between February 12 and 17 of that year, aged 102 and survived his wife of nearly 100 years. It is a fact that Dempsey Gardner was listed in the Edgecombe County Census of 1810. The Census of 1850 indicated that he had been born about 1770 and was a farmer worth $575. His wife Sarah was born in 1780. Children were Nancy born in 1805 and Jonas born in 1815, while grandchildren were Mary born in 1839, John born in 1841, Amy born in 1843, and C(atherine?) born in 1846.

DAVID WEBB TO ELISHA ELLIS DEED
Edgecombe County Deed Book 4, page 523

To all to whom these Presents shall come. Greetings &c.
Know ye that I David Webb of Edgecombe County & State of North Carolina for and in Consideration of the Sum of sixty Pounds Current Money of this State to me in hand paid before the Sealing & delivering of these Presents well & truly paid by Elisha Eles of the same County and State aforesaid the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and myself therewith fully satisfied and contented thereof and of every part & parcel thereof do acquit and discharge the said Elisha Eles his heirs Executors, & Administrators for ever; by these Presents have given, granted, bargained, sold, aliend, conveyed, and confirmed, and by these presents do fully, freely, clearly, and absolutely, give, grant, Bargain, Sell, alien, convey and confirm unto him the s^{d}. Elisha Eles, his Heirs & Assigns for ever, one certain piece and Parcell of Land, situate, lying & being in the County, and State aforesaid in the fork between White Oaks Swamp, and a Branch commonly called Charles Branch, beginning at a white Oak, John Permenters corner, in the s^{d}. Branch, running West to along said Permenters, & Jethro Barnes' line to the said white oak Swamp, --thence up the said Swamp or Branch to the fork, thence up the west Prong of said Branch to William Eles line, thence East to a pine John Permenters other Corner, and Charles Lee's corner, thence along said Permenters line south to the first Station, containing in the whole one hundred & fifty Acres together be the same more or less, being part of the Land granted to Charles Lee by the grant bearing Date the eighth day of October 1783 to have and to hold, the said granted & bargained Premisses with all the appurtenances, priviledges & Commodities to the same belonging, or any wise appertaining, unto him the said Elisha Eles, his heirs and assigns for ever; to his & their only proper use, benefit & behoof for ever; and I the said David Webb, for me myself, my heirs, Executors, and Administrators do covenant and agree to and with the said Elisha Eles, his heirs and assigns that before the Sealing & Delivery of these Pressents, I am the true and lawful Owner of the above bargained Presisses, and am lawfully possessed of the same in our own proper Right as a good perfect and absolute Estate Inheritance in Fee Simple, and I have in my self, good Right, full Power, & Lawfull Authority to grant, bargain Sell convey and confirm the said Bargained premises in manner as above Said and that the said Elisha Eles shall and may from time to time, and at all Times ever hereafter, have hold occupy and quietly possess &. Enjoy the said Bargained Premissas with all the appurtenances, freely, clearly & absolutely acquitted and discharged of and from all manner of former or other Gifts, grants, bargains, Sales, Leases, mortgages, wills, entails, jointures dowries Judgments, Executions & Incumbrances, furthermore I the said David Webb, for me myself, my Heirs, Executors, & Administrators do covenant & engage the above demised Premisses to him the said Elisha Eles, his heirs, and assigns for ever, in as full large and ample manner, as is expressed by the Original deed or grant thereof, against the lawful Claim & Demand of all Persons whatsoever for ever hereafter, to warrant, secure, & for ever Defend, In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & affixed My Seal, the first Day of June 1786.

Signed, Sealed, & delivered
In presence of
Test Isaac Farmer
Benjamin Rogers

his
David X Webb
mark

Edgecombe County Sst.

April Court 1787

The Execution of the within Deed was duly proved in open Court, by the oath of Isaac Farmer, a subscribing witness thereto and orderd to be Registered.

Test. Edward Hall C. C^{t}.

[Editor's note: Research into land records by Betty Reason placed Elisha Ellis's land east of the present line between Wilson and Edgecombe County, south of Highway 124, west of Highway 111 (Stagecoach Road), and north of Ellis Meeting House Branch (which feeds into Bynum Mill Swamp).

This is the same Elisha Ellis (Sr.) who was named as a trustee in the deed made by William Ritter to establish a community church. The deed was included in the September 2006 issue of *Trees.*]

FANNY A. GORHAM OBITUARY
The Wilson Times, August 20, 1914
Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

Mrs. Fanny A. Gorham.

In Wilson, N. C., at the residence of her son, Mrs. Fannie A. Gorham relict of the late Dr. James E. Gorham and sister of the late Hon. W. T. Dortch of Goldsboro, departed this life from senility at 8 p. m., August 19th, 1914, in her 91st year. She leaves one son, Mr. W. C. Gorham who has several children and grand children in North Carolina and one son in Virginia. The late Mrs. F. A. Gorham also has several grand children in California, the latter of whom are the children and grand children of the late Mrs. Theo. Hobgood.

Services were conducted at the residence of her son, Mr. W. C. Gorham at 306 N. Goldsboro Street at 4:30 p. m. today.

The following will act as pall bearers: Messrs. W. A. Finch, W. D. Hackney, R. G. Briggs, J. R. Raines, Lat Williams, J. E. Farmer.

SEPTEMBER 26, 2006, MEETING

The September meeting of the WCGS was held at the Wilson County Library. The speaker for the evening was Sarah Koonts, Head of the Collections Management Branch of North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh. Sarah spoke on the preservation of family papers and was an enjoyable and informative speaker. Her first goal was to tell the importance of saving family papers and records for future generations.

The quality of paper was best in the 1700s when it was made of cotton and had no bleach or sizing. Ground wood pulp papers do not last as long as those made of cotton. Newspapers are acidic, causing shorter life. However most paper today is acid free. Ink eats into paper. Good storage requires stable temperature, good air circulation, avoidance of sun, ultraviolet light, dampness and food. Rubber bands, paper clips, and staples should be removed and the papers kept flat when possible.

Photographs require good storage and handling with prints and negatives kept in cool, dry places. Do not use magnetic photo albums. Those used should be free of PVC. A soft pencil is best for writing on the back of photos. Identify all of the persons for future generations.

Digital photos are more challenging. CDs do not have a long life span and videos should be copied.

Mrs. Koonts ended her lecture with a question and answer period which was followed by a brief business session.

There was no treasurer's report. Next years calendar will be on Lucama. Horace Renfrow will assist in the locating of sites for photographing.

Nominations for the 2007 officers are:

President: Sue Powell
Vice-President: Phil Mooring
Secretary: Frances Roberson
Treasurer: Henry Powell
Board Member: Jane Poston

There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made and seconded that the above list be accepted and voted on at the October meeting.

Dick Rountree introduced his guest Kathryn Webb Barnhill and they presented to the library "The Vick Family Tree," a joint compilation of the descendants of John B. Vick.

There were some announcements of forth-coming area meetings, and then it was time to adjourn as the library was closing.

Frances W. Roberson

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The collection of books and microfilm is very extensive. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

NEW!!! A special file cabinet has been added to house family history records in a secure manner. Those loose files already at the library are in the process of being filed. Your family records would be welcome additions. See Deborah Webb, Reference Librarian, to make your contribution.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street Entrance.

RESEARCH TIP—USE ESTATES RECORDS

WCGS exchanges journals with several other genealogical organizations. Those that we receive are shelved in the Local History and Genealogy Room at Wilson County Public Library. Peruse the collection during your research session at the library.

The latest issue of *Carolina Trees & Branches,* the journal of the Family Research Society of Northeastern North Carolina contained a review of a new book, *Widow's Years Provisions (1881-1899), Pasquotank County, North Carolina—Volume I.* The reviewer, Sharon Gable, stated, "The lack of the 1890 census is a huge impact to genealogists, and we have to search for alternatives to fill the gap. In jumping from the 1880 census to the 1900 census, your ancestor can get married, have a child, have the child get married, before the count in 1900. With that scenario you can lose the trail of your ancestor."

Estates records provide information which can help fill that gap. The records help us estimate the death date, the name of his wife (if it is a record of the husband/father), the number of children under 15 (and in a number of cases their names). The widow was allowed one year's worth of provisions for herself and additional provisions for children who were under 15. The guardianship reports help us determine the ages of those children.

The estate inventory listed the everyday items owned by the family at the time of death of the head of the household. An examination of those possessions helps us visualize the home and farm and put the family into the perspective of the time in which they lived. The estate sale gives an indication of the economic status of the family. Were the family members the principal buyers? Did the neighbors buy most of the items? I have often been very moved to imagine life for the family after the sale of their possessions. Not only have they lost their husband and father and source of support, but they also lost the furnishings of their home and the tools with which to make a living. When my widowed great grandmother died, even the toys of her children were included in the sale. There was no one to buy them for the children. They lost everything.

Some estate records include documents related to court cases. Review them carefully. They may contain valuable information or clues to follow to learn more about the family. Depositions in one of my third great grandmothers's estate file gave enough information for me to construct a family tree including her six children, the children of her deceased children, the children of her deceased grandchildren, and some of the spouses. In all, 42 individuals and 4 generations in the family were named. What a gold mine of information!

ANNOUNCEMENT

The North Carolina Genealogical Society's Annual Meeting and Workshop will be held Nov. 3 & 4, at Brier Creek Country Club, Raleigh, N. C. The program is called "Meeting Your Ancestor's Neighbors over the Back Fence and in the Court Room." Speakers will be Helen Leary, Mark Lowe, and Ann Basnight. For more information go to: http://www.ncgenealogy.org or email info@ncgenealogy.org

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
Wilson County
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 802
Wilson, NC 27894
252-243-1660
www.wcgs.org

Braswell, Ellis, Gorham, Simms, Webb, Winstead

October 2006

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Books

___ They Moved Away - North Carolinians Who Went to Other States $15.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1860. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1870. $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Census of 1900. $40.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume I $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume II $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume III $30.00
___ Wilson County, North Carolina, Cemeteries Volume IV $30.00
___ Wilson County's Architectural Heritage $20.00
___ Wilson County's Founding Families (prepublication) $35 .00
(tax included) **NEW**

Maps

___ Wilson County Historical Map $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #1 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #2 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #3 $5.00
___ Confederate Field Map #4 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1872 $5.00
___ Town of Wilson, Map 1882 $5.00
___ Wilson County Waterways $5.00

Miscellaneous

___ Cemetery Finder (paper) donation $5.00 shipping included
___ Wilson Co. Estates Inventory (paper) $5.00 shipping included
___ 2002 WCGS Calendar (Rock Ridge area) $5.00
___ 2003 WCGS Calendar (Gardners Township) $5.00
___ 2005 WCGS Calendar (Elm City) $5.00
___ 2006 WCGS Calendar (Black Creek) $5.00

Payment and shipping: Shipping cost for each book is $3.00. Shipping cost for maps is $3.00 for 1-4 items.
Add 7% sales tax for NC residents on merchandise total (not on shipping).
Total of items ordered $_____ Shipping $_____ Sales Tax $_____ Total of Order $_____

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☐ Please enroll me as a member of WCGS. **I enclose $20 for personal membership & subscription to *Trees*.** Please allow 3-5 weeks for shipping on all orders. **You may order books & membership through our website. http://www.wcgs.org.**

C971
T7

TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

November 2006 | Volume 15 Number 10

President's Message

It is that time of year when our thoughts turn to giving.

We would like you to also give to WCGS. Wait! Don't think this is another request for money! We have something else in mind; however, we would not turn down a tax deductible monetary gift if you wanted to give one.

What we are asking from you is some results of your research. We need copy ready articles to include in future issues of *Trees of Wilson* or typing services of some of the donated material which is not in a format that can be inserted into *Trees*. We need articles typed into a computer in a word format. Either email the document to me as an attachment to suepowell@coastalnet.com or send it to me on a diskette.

If you have transcribed a family document (such as a will, deed, estate inventory or sale) or a Bible record, that would be great!

We also would like scanned copies of ancestors' photographs along with a description of who the people are. Photos taken in front of their homes would be great! Be sure to tell us where the home was located if you know it. If the family did not live in Wilson County, please tell us how they are connected to Wilson County.

Since we have covered the smaller towns in the county, we would like to include photographs of ancestors and their homes in a series of future calendars. We need your contributions to do that.

Finally, consider giving a friend or relative a gift membership in WCGS. Since that includes *Trees of Wilson*, a membership is a gift that keeps on giving!

Sue Powell

NOVEMBER 28TH MEETING
Wilson County Public Library
7:00 PM

We will meet in the Assembly Room. Cross the entrance "lobby," turn left beyond the circulation desk, go through the double doors then to the room on your left.

This meeting is designated as our Annual Meeting. Reports will be given on the activities of 2006, and the officers for 2007 will be installed. They are:

President: Sue Powell
Vice-President: Phil Mooring
Secretary: Frances Roberson
Treasurer: Henry Powell
Member of the Board: Jane Poston

There will be a brief statement of plans for WCGS in 2007.

Instead of a speaker, we will have a "Show and Tell" sharing of family pictures, treasures, and stories. So look in your trunks, storage houses, or the safest spot in your house for something that you would like to bring to show. This program is always a favorite with our members. We enjoy seeing treasures belonging to someone else and often feel envious that we do not have a similar item from our ancestors.

If you do not have an item, share some of your research or something that you have done to preserve your heritage.

It is time to renew to keep your membership active and continue to receive *Trees of Wilson*.

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CRITTENDEN'S 1898-1899 IMPRESSIONS OF WILSON
Hugh Buckner Johnston files

Charles Christopher Crittenden, Sr., taught for one year in the Public Schools of Wilson and also wrote many letters to family and friends, in which he described local people and events and his personal impressions of them. [Editor's note: Mr. Johnston had a regular column named "Looking Backward" in the *Wilson Daily Times* for many years. He also had a column called "The Old Reporter" in a Rocky Mount newspaper. Most likely these letters were included in his "Looking Backward" column. We started this series of letters in the May issue and will continue the letters in future issues of *Trees*.]

Crewe, Va., Apr. 28, 1899

Dear Nip:

... Next session I shall be in Henry College, Texas, on a salary of $65 and board and lodging. Since accepting that I have had two good offers, and may yet take one of them (in Raleigh).

There is a probability of our Sup. Getting a better position, and if so the Superintendency here will probably be offered me (Salary $100 per month). You see my chances are now bright, and I shall probably not be soon bothered by being without a position.

The people have been recently expressing themselves most enthusiastically as to my work. All the year there has been no word of complaint, and pupils have been constantly coming into my grade from other schools.

Base-ball has recently commenced and we have such an abundance of fine material that it is probable that the team, usually almost entirely professional, will this year be composed entirely of local amateurs. While here I shall probably play second base. This

(Continued on page 110)

Trees of Wilson — WCGS

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Materials of genealogical interest to the members of WCGS are accepted for publication at the discretion of the Editors and should pertain to families with connections in Wilson County and its neighboring and parent counties. WCGS cannot accept any responsibility for the content of contributed materials, including errors and omissions. Please direct any questions to the contributor. Their names and addresses will be provided upon request for worthwhile purposes.

Queries from WCGS members are accepted and posted at WilsonNC@yahoogroups.com

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(C. C. Crittenden Letter, Continued from page 109)

town always has the best team in the state. …

Your Bro.
C. C. Crittenden

Wilson, N. C.
May 10, '99

Dear Nip:

… There is still a little doubt as to when school closes. The Trustees threaten to add a week for the one lost during the big snow. If they do not, which I think probable, school will close Friday, the 19th. I am getting fidgety for it to come. The day it closes I expect to mount my cycle for home. The roads are said to be fine all the way, so that I anticipate an enjoyable trip.

Thursday last we played another game of base-ball. I was short-stop, and didn't make an error. I out batted the rest of the team completely, knocking three long flies to left field in succession. This town always has the best team in the state in base-ball, so I at once became famous.

Today the school celebrated "Decoration Day." The first regiment band was here, the military company, the old veterans in procession, and a speaker from a neighboring town. The stores were all closed, and the town turned out. I needn't say that it was all a grand success. To-night I am pretty nearly a nervous wreck. …

Your Brother, C. C. C.

Crewe, Va.
May 24, '99

Dear Nip:

… When I left Wilson, N. C., the people expressed so many regrets at my leaving that I almost felt like staying. I left with a high reputation as a teacher, and in every other way. I expect to go back for a day or two this summer. I rode from there here on my wheel. …

Your Brother,
C. C. C.

MAGGIE BULLOCK OBITUARY

***Zion's Landmark*, November 1, 1907**

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

MAGGIE BULLOCK.

Dear Brother Gold—With a sad heart, I will try and write the obituary of my cousin, Maggie Bullock, who died June 3d, 1907. She was born May 11th, 1858, making her stay on earth 49 years and 29 days. She was married to Mr. George Bullock December 17th, 1884, and to this union were given nine children, four are dead and five left to mourn the loss of their mother, besides her husband and a host of friends who have missed her smiles and cheerful voice.

I visited her some time before her death and found her with consumption. She seemed glad to see me and was calm and resigned to her condition which betokens the life of a Christian.

Grieve not for her, husband and children, for the Lord has called her home …

She never expressed her views of religion to me, but she was a strong believer in the Primitive Baptists. She did not tell me she had a hope but we must judge the tree by the fruit it bears. From her childhood I have known her, she has always lived an upright, moral life, doing good whenever she could, and I feel that we should not grieve for one whose walk seemed so perfect. …

Your brother in Christ, I hope.

H. G. Worsley.

JOSIAH HINNANT FAMILY
Hinnant, Researched by D. Franklin Hinnant, Jr.
Compiled by Charles Keenan Hinnant

This story of the early life of the Josiah Hinnant family was told to me by George Milton "Pet" Hinnant, Sr., born 4-26-1885, my beloved father-in-law, to whom it is lovingly dedicated.

Bonnie C. Hinnant
Wife of G. M. Hinnant, Jr.

There comes a time in every man's life when he considers settling down with a wife of his choice and rearing his own family. This thought kept occurring to Josiah Hinnant, often he realized, since he had become so fond of Zilpha Barnes. Zilpha was a fine girl he knew, wholesome well built to have many children, yet neat and attractive enough to catch the eye of any of the country swain. She had been reared by the Larce Barnes family, after the death of her parents, and was considered a daughter of the family.

Josiah, himself, was no laggard. He must have somewhere to take a bride. He rented some farm land near Kenley, in Johnston County. There was a small neat log cottage there, too, in which one, after some minor repairs could live comfortably even through the cold winter. True, the cottage had no floor – but the hard packed ground was clean smelling and the small loft at one end of the room made a good sleeping room. It was reached by a hand made ladder – stairs would have used too much space.

Taking time from his farm work to make the needed repair and after placing a few indispensable pieces of furniture inside he went to Buckhorn, in Wilson County to claim his bride.

After their marriage in the Barnes home they returned to the cottage and farm that Josiah had rented. Their honeymoon was spent there interrupted only by the various tasks that must be regularly performed on the farm.

Zilpha was as busy inside the cottage working to make it comfortable and livable as Josiah was outside tilling the soil – making straight furrows and planting the crops. At times when her capable hands were needed outside to help with some task she would willingly "don her bonnet" and join her husband. "Always she works" he marveled, "never does she stop." By now the cabin had taken on a different appearance. It reflected tireless effort and her quiet good taste. True, they still lacked comfortable furniture and many conveniences, but on the whole, it had greatly changed since their first meal there when Zilpha had cooked on an open fire place and served her husband's dinner on a fish box.

Together they made a table and some benches – nail kegs were yet used for chairs. Always there was the fresh sweet scent of pine inside the cabin as fresh pine needles were regularly added to their bed "tick."

At length Zilpha admitted that she was with child and Josiah had to insist that she do less strenouous work and stay inside more.

Now – new tasks arose for both, with a child coming clothing had to be provided. Cotton was grown on their Farm. Zilpha set to work cleaning, carding, spinning thread for the weaving of cloth. Much cloth would be needed. Warm woolens would be needed too.

These tasks did not dismay this young lady who had in so short a time left her girlhood behind and had become a woman, soon to become a Mother.

There were added tasks added now for the young father-to-be. A cradle in which to rock his own young must be provided. While Josiah worked at night making the cradle – Zilpha sat close by knitting and smiling and happy.

While this was going on Josiah was growing in both wisdom and stature. Now he was the head of a growing household responsible for a family livlihood. He must increase in wisdom. To do this he read the Bible. Often he read aloud that his wife might grow wiser too. He read papers – books and talked with respected men. He even cultivated the friendship of the local school teacher and was proudly said to be the teacher's advisor.

Then came the birth of his child, a son, A son, how great it was to have a son. "We will have a family of son's," said Josiah. Thereafter, each two or three years a child would be born until eventually there twelve children – nine sons and three daughters.

The farm cabin was bursting at the seams now. There had to be more room provided for this boistrous family. Josiah had become a rather prosperous farmer recognized as an authority in his community. It was now that he had the opportunity to expand and to make some real money. He became a millright at Baker's Saw Mill near Raines Crossroad. He was to receive the handsome sum of $20.00 each month which seemed to shorten the five miles that he walked to work each day.

His wife, now mature, attended a housefull of healthy boisterous children, cooked and cleaned by day – patched, knitted, pieced coverlets and comforted restless children at night.

It was here, that at breakfast one cold morning, Frank spied "the shoes," (belonging to the one who got them first) in a crack of the log wall. - Holding his plate he tried to capture the shoes before one of the other boys spied them. He dodged under the pine lighter knot which was stuck into the log wall for their light. In his intent to get the shoes he bumped into the lighter knot singing his hair to the scalp. He held his plate and "the shoes" were his for that day.

Zilpha was firm in rearing her children, expected and received help from them as soon as they became large enough to help with the numerous household duties. Rarely did any matter of discipline have to be carried over until evening for Josiah to deal with. Zilpha's word was law – and if necessary Josiah saw that it was enforced.

Needless to say with this number and various age of the children anything could, and probably did happen. The health of each had to be guarded for when one "got sick" an epidemic could have followed.

According to Pet his earliest recollection is of warm soft weather when he and Jim and probably Frank played in the farm yard with nothing on but their little "button down the back" apron dress – and that pinned up in the back – to protect the apron.

Always curious and always full of adventure many mis-

(Continued on page 112)

(Hinnant Family, Continued from page 111)
chievous pranks ran into disaster. As did the full keg of Josiah's persimmon beer that the boys had decided to sample. They were successful in removing the bung – but not in replacing it – all beer drained from the keg and through Pet's apron as he stood holding it high in an attempt to catch the liquid and to avoid retribution.

Farming was done intermittently, with Josiah's mill work, but was done consistently and done well.

Along with the farm land that he had rented was Gin, an old mare which he used to till his crops. The mare had marched into the South with the cussed yankee soldiers and left to languish alone when her service was no longer needed.

She was a useful animal to the Hinnant family. Not only was she used as the farm plow horse – and to carry these vigorous boys for short rides – but she introduced them to the first tottering colt that they had ever seen. Inquisitive as ants they swarmed over the long legged creature unable, it seemed to get close enough. Jim, a small tad of two years, grabbed the colt's tail firmly in his sturdy hands and was knocked unconscious by its flying hoofs.

Here, too, Frank met with an accident into which his curiosity had led him. He had followed Fernandes, an older brother, to cut wood. Creeping closer and closer to see from where the chips flew he was struck by a glancing blow of the ax and throughout his life carries a scar on his forehead. He was carried home bleeding and unconscious. Naturally this caused a furor of excitement among the children but, - Zilpha calmly took care of this as she did in other and all matters.

The Children now ranged in ages from teens to infants. Two had been born while the family lived here making the number an uneven eleven.

Josiah seemed to find it difficult to settle down in one place for any length of time. Another mill another – farm seemed to keep beckoning. He moved his family several times always to or near a mill site.

In 1894 he leased the Old Sasser's Mill, leased the property for five years for repairing the mill and mill dam. The dam had been washed out 18 years earlier making the mill of no use. Josiah, with help of his sons faced a huge battle. With mule carts and homemade wheelbarrows they set to work. Trees had to be cut and hauled to "log" the dam. The younger ones manned the wheelbarrows pushing as much soil and rock as their energy would permit.

Josiah took on the job of repairing the mill with help, only when he had to have it, from his older sons. Steadily the work progressed and the mill was ready to use.

Along with spring misfortune struck: Heavy rains and rushing waters took out the newly built dam. All this work to be done again. More trees had to be cut to make the reinforcements stronger. Logs and stones were packed to repair and strengthen the dam. Time has proven this repair job as holding now, 65 years later.

While all this was going on at the mill things were progressing at their home near the mill. Flora, the youngest of the 12 children, and the third daughter was born here. Many happy memories are held dear of the years at Sassers Mill.

The boys, now teenagers, never had to hunt entertainment, there were enough of them to make their own entertainment. In summer they delighted in tolling the hungry pigs up the ramp into the mill house. Upon slamming the door shut they forced the frightened pigs to jump through an open window into the mill pond. Once an old sow followed the line of shelled corn into the "upper room." Both the sow and the boys became frightened – as the sow jumped – the boys caught her by the tail hoping to deter her and send her back the way she came in. Too late. They were able only to break her speed, and her neck as well, as she fell onto the rocky surface below, while the boys were left in fright holding the sow's tail that they had pulled off.

Before their father found this out they dragged the sow away – placing her carcas on home plate of the ball diamond of the local black children. This, of course, delayed their 4th of July picnic and ball game planned by the neighboring blacks.

Here, too, the boys tried to teach their mother's chickens to swim by tossing them into the mill pond. When Zilpha saw what was happening to her fryers – as one son remembers, "Mother beat time while we made the music." Another thing he remembers that Zilpha would never use a dogwood branch to switch the children.

Zilpha now had help with her many household duties – and her large family to cook for. Aunt Jane White is fondly remembered as help who would always find something for hungry young ones to snack on.

Aunt Liza Pierson did the washing, after which both she and Zelpha would take fishing poles, a bucket, a cup of worms and their snuff boxes and go to the mill pond to fish. Before long they would have a bucket full of fish caught for the evening meal.

Occasionally there was a big picnic among the neighbors when each neighbor would carry his favorite food and spread them all together. Zilpha usually carried her children's favorite, a jelly cake – thin layers spread heavily with jelly and stacked high. This delicacy the boys jokingly called, "streak of fat and a streak of lean".

As was the custom then churches, after revival meetings, held their baptisimal services at creeks or ponds in convenient locations. Once while the services were being held at Sassers Mill Pond, Frank like Zacius, climbed a tree to get a better view of the program. However, Frank chose to climb a sappling and down into the water he fell near the Pastor who already had his hands full.

Another time the boys filled their packets with small green crabapples to pepper the heads of unsuspecting candidates at the local polling place. Soon Frank was taking careful aim at a shining bald head of a voter whose small daughter clung timidly to his pants leg. The apple flew – hit the exact bull's eye at which he had aimed, while the boys disappeared. This was all later rectified, however, the man, Rufus Holland, became Frank's father-in-law and the timid little girl Lillie, his wife.

Not all was romping childhood though – household rules had to be adhered to – as foot washing before going to bed. There was an old iron skillet in which this rite was performed. Water had to be carried and was therefore used spar-

(Continued on page 113)

(Hinnant Family, Continued from page 112)
ingly. No boy wanted to wash his feet first – each one tried to be the last so he wouldn't get so wet. During the cold weather nights when they were forced to stay indoors their wit and mischief was something to cope with. One favorite pastime was pouring hot water through the cracks in the floor onto the backs of unsuspecting hogs under the house seeking shelter from the cold. With a loud grunt and woooof the frightened hogs would rush out bumping the floor and shaking the whole house. The boys would be sent upstairs where they all slept and planned mischief for the next day.

School had to be attended, occasionally. The term lasted only two or three months and the parents paid the teacher for the days attended.

While living at Sassers Mill sorrow visited the family. Fernandes, one of the older sons died, supposedly of typhoid fever. Jessie, just a tot of 3 years, died also. These two are buried close to the old mill.

Ruthie, the oldest daughter, was married to Pete Pierce while living in this location.

Throughout the five years of this lease Josiah had done well – so well that he decided to rent the mill for another year. For this year (the 6th) he paid the sum of $100.00 rent.

During this year 1898 Josiah found that he could purchase the 167 Acres known as the Old Curt Holland Farm – in lower Johnson, County. For this acreage he was to pay $600.00 within six years.

There were two buildings on the farm, but best of all, acres of good farm land. While yet operating the Sassers Mill Josiah sawed the lumber to build a house on the newly purchased farm.

The house was build meagerly but firmly, a one story building that is occupied yet today – and is owned by the youngest son, Jim. The main house was used as living and sleeping quarters – the family cooking and meals were prepared and served in a smaller house close by known as the "outside Kitchen." This was the custom in those days as it kept all foods outside the main house as wire screening was yet unknown and electric refrigeration had not been dreamed of. Here they lived while clearing the land and cultivating the fields.

There was help at home for most of this – Martha and Flora were young ladies now and well trained to help with the house work and cooking. Joe, John, Doc, Pet, Frank and Jim aided their father with the farm labor.

These eight youths were all under 21 years of age and during the winter attended school intermittently at Hickory Cross Road School. Few times can be recalled when all the children attended school together. Those who could be spared from work at home attended irregularly. Schools were yet of short duration and only during the cold winter months when the farm work was "laid by" until Spring.

Come Spring all hands were at work at home and on the farm. Cotton, tobacco, corn and wheat were the main crops on the farm. Cotton was used for spinning and weaving cloth and for a money crop as well as tobacco. Corn was grown for home use as well as feed for the farm animals – and to fatten the hogs for they grew their own meat. Wheat was ground into flour to feed the large family.

As yet the boys worked but very little, outside the farm, for their own spending money. They will remember hiding out eggs to trade for tobacco and candy. Eggs were .10¢ a dozen and had to be taken in trade.

The Hinnant boys, young men by now, made many friends that have been of long duration.

Charley (Possum) Pitman and George Lane were two of their closest friends. This group was popular at the country square dances as Charley, George, Frank and Jim accompanied the organ with Martha usually at the keyboard and Pet calling figures. George Lane owned a horse and buggy that carried this group many times to and from dances and picnics. "Ole Charley" was trained to cut many a "horsey trick" when goaded into doing so, much to the amusement of the group of the young people.

At home the Smithfield Herald was delivered once a week. "Pop" read the paper through during the long quiet evening, Zilpha still busy with her mending, sewing, knitting or making coverlets for the beds was becoming mature and somewhat stout. The children all remember that they never saw her idle – and with a full household that is understandable.

The younger children, attended school some during the two months term, - carrying dinner pail and slate. Slates were used for all written work, and never had to be disposed of when it was full of figures or words – just wipe it off clean with a sleeve, then use again. Lunches from the dinner pail were eaten outside whenever the weather permitted. Any place was more comfortable than the backless benches where their feet didn't even reach the floor in the school room.

The boys now began to wander off to various kinds of work. John became a blacksmith, or mill rite, as his father was. Now he set out to see the world as he worked a while and traveled on finally reaching California. He vivedly describes the thrilling horror of the great earthquake of California in the year of 1906 – for he was right there. This experience seemed to terminate his Westward movement and on returning East was in Utah when it when it received Statehood. After 14 years of traveling and sending no mail to his family, he returned to N. C. finding his father in poor health.

In 1909 Josiah died after living only eleven years on the farm that he had so proudly purchased. The farm home, the site of the annual "Hinnant Reunion," is yet owned by Jim, the youngest son of the family.

Frank at this time had become a building contractor – Jim a skilled plastirer who worked with Frank.

After the fathers death John and Pet drifted off to Kentucky where they worked for years in Hazzard and Harlan building rail roads and County roads. From Kentucky they came back to Goldsboro where they engaged in building roads for the State. John continued his work as a blacksmith with a road crew and Pet came into Wake County.

WILL OF JOHN J. JACKSON

N. C. Archives

Contributed by Grace W. Turner

In the Name of God Amen. I John J Jackson of the County Edgecombe & State of North Carolina. being in good health & sound mind and memory, but calling to mind the mortality of Man, have thought expedient to make my last will & Testament, which is in manner and form following

Imprimis—I recommend my Soul to Almighty God, and my body decently intered and request my Executors to inform the Members of the late Masonic Lodge of Tarborough that it is my wish to have funeral obseques performed with the honours of Masonry and a sermon suitable to the occasion

My just and lawful debts I wish paid out of the accounts & notes due me, and the lands which I have lying on Cokey Swamp, particularly the Tracts, I purchased of Sam[l]. Deloach this I suppose to be full & over sufficient to settle all my debts, but should my executors find a necesity for more let them dispose of such of my Horses or Stock as they may think best and at private sale, as I conceive there is no necesity for a public sale after the above property is disposed of

Item—I give and bequeath to my loving wife Charlotte Jackson all the real & personal property I may die possessed of after the payment of my just & lawfull debts, in the following manner (to wit) that thereout of my daughter, Nancy J. Jackson, be boared, clothed & educated, in as genteel a manner as the nature of the case will admit of, that neither real or personal property be sold given or otherwise disposed of, more than is thought by my execrs. is necessary for the genteel support of my wife & Child, that when my said daughter Nancy J. Jackson marries or arrives at years of Maturity that then my real Property Property as well in this County as in Cumberland in the state of Tennessee be at the disposal for her & her Heirs forever and that at such time as before mentioned my loving wife gives to my said Daughter Nancy one good Bed and furniture, one Horse to be worth one hundred dollars a good womans saddle & Bridle and one hundred pound Virginia Currency, either in hand or a Bond for that amount payable in twelve months after my Daughter should marry or arrive of Age—the balance of the property to be for the sole use & benefit of my wife to her and her heirs lawfully begotten of her body forever—But should my wife die without heirs of her own body, then at her decease the whole of the property to go to the use & benefit of my said daughter Nancy & her Heirs forever, and untill that matter is fully ascertained that none of the Negroes be sold or otherwise disposed of by Gift &c—and should my said daughter Nancy die previous to the death of my said wife and without marrying or having heirs of her body, that then the Land & property which I have above bequeathed my said daughter to revert back—It is further my will & desire that in case my said wife Charlotte should die without issue & preceding the death of my daughter, and then that my Daughter should die without marrying and issue of her body, that then the property shall be equally divided between Figures, Sally, and Nancy Phillips the brothers & Sisters of my wife—Lastly I nominate constitute & appoint my loving wife Charlotte Jackson with my trusty friend Jeremiah Hilliard to be my joint Executors to this my last Will & Testament signed sealed & pronounced in presence of us

Wm H[d] Ruffin J. J. Jackson (seal)
Jane Philips

Edgecombe County __ February Court 1799

The written will of J. J. Jackson dec[d] was exhibited into Court & proved by the oath of William Haywood Ruffin & Jane Phillips the two subscribing witnesses thereto & Charlotte Jackson one of the executors named in the said will at the same time qualified thereto—Ordered that the same be certified & the will Recorded

Test
Edward Hall CC

- - - - -

State of North Carolina
County of Edgecombe

Be it remembered that on the 16th day of June 1857, Joseph H. Baker as administrator of the late Nancy Foxhall, sued and prosecuted out of the County Superior Court of Law of the County aforesaid, a writ in these Words ---

"State of North Carolina
Edgecombe County
To the Sherriff of Edgecombe County,
Greeting:

We command you to take the body of Joseph J. B. Pender (if he be found in your county) and him safely Keep so that you have him before the Honorable the Judge of our Superior Court of law, at the Court to be held for the County of Edgecombe at the Court to be held House in Tarboro, on the second Monday of September next, then and there to answer unto Joseph H. Baker as administrator of Nancy Foxhall of a plea that he render unto him certain Slaves, towit—Lucy, Isaac, Nicy, Eliza & her four children, towit, Sam, Sampson, Celia, & an infant— Mary & her children viz, Bob, Peter, Daphna, Charity, Amos, Jim & Soloman— Sarah, Abigail and her family, viz. Judah and infant, Abram, Jack, Penny, Rhoda and Clarissa— Rose and her family, viz. Sandy, John, Hilliard, Berry, Jenny, Cherry, Mose, Susan, and Will, of the value of thirty-thousand dollars, which be unjustly detains from him to his Damage thirty thousand dollars — Herein fail not, and have you

(Continued on Page 115)

(Baker vs. Pender, continued from page 102)
then and there this writ

Witness William M. Pippen, Clerk of our said Court, at office in Tarboro, the second Monday of March A. D. 1857, and in the eighty first year of our Independence

Issued the 16th day of June 1857

Wm. M. Pippen Clerk"

Copy of prosecution bond annexed to said writ

" We acknowledge ourselves bound to the defendant in this suit in the sum of two Hundred dollrs. in case the plaintiff fails in the prosecution thereof, to pay all such Costs as may be recovered against him by the defendant

Signed J. H. Baker
R. H. Austin

Endorsed as follows "Johnston"

And on the return day of the said writ, towit — on the second Monday of September A.D. 1857, at the Court House in Tarboro, before R. M. Saunders, Judge, James F. Jenkins, Sherriff of Said County, returns that he had executed the said writ.

And thereupon to said Joseph H. Baker as adm. of the Said Nancy Foxhall by his attorneys D. R. McRae & Wm H. Johnston comes and complains &c &c, - and the Said Joseph J. B. Pender, by his attorneys R. R. Bridgers & Wm B Rodman comes and pleas as follows, towit — "General issue - no property in plaintiff — that limits — award & Satisfaction — Release"

Therefore let a jury come here on the second Monday of March A. D. 1858, by whom &c and the same day is given to the parties

At which last mentioned day at the Court House in Tarboro, before the Hon. Jno W. Ellis, Judge, came the parties aforesaid by their attorneys aforesaid, and by consent of the parties the following case agreed is made up and submitted to the judgment of the Court:

Case Agreed

This is an action of Detinue for a Certain Slave Called John named in the writ of the plaintiff

1 John J. Jackson of Said County died in or about 1798, having made and published his Will, and being possessed of Certain Slaves, of one of which the Negro in controversy in this suit was the increase

2 At February Term 1799, of Edgecombe County Court, his will was duly proved, a copy thereof is annexed as a part of this case of the Executors named in the Will, his wife Charlotte duly qualified, the others renounced, said Charlotte duly appointed to the legacies in his will

3 By said will he gave several legacies which did not include Said Slaves and then bequeathed as follows. "The residue of the property to be for the sole use and benefit &c" See copy of the Will.

4 The Said Charlotte after the death of testator Jackson Married John D. Ward who died in or about 1823—by him She had issue Joseph J. E. Ward who died intestate in 1831 or 1832 — and said Charlotte died in said County in 1855 — the Said Joseph J. E. Ward was her only child and she survived him.

5 Nancy the daughter of the testator Jackson by a former marriage, referred to in his will, married William Foxhall and died in or about 1820 — Said Nancy had issue by William Foxhall one child, Mary Ann Foxhall who survived said Nancy about Ten years — The plaintiff at February Term 1857 of Edgecombe County Court duly became the administrator of said Nancy

6 The slaves aforesaid with their increase after the death of Jno. J. Jackson remained in the possession of his widow Charlotte until her death — after that event they went into the possession of the defendant—and were so possessed by him when the plaintiff demanded them and the defendant refused to deliver them up whereupon the suit was brought

7 It is agreed, if the Court shall be of opinion that the plaintiff is entitled to judgment, that judgment shall be entered up for said slaves as of the value of twelve Hundred dollars

~~~~ On the above case the Court is of opinion for the defendant, and doth so adjudge and that be served against the plaintiff and Robert H. Austin his surety for the prosecution, his (defendants) costs in this suit incurred — From which judgment the plaintiff prays an appeal to the Superior Court which is allowed — appeal bond waived by defendant"

[Editor's note: The case was heard at North Carolina Superior Court in June Term 1858 and was included in *Reports of Cases at Law, Argued and Determined in The Supreme Court of North Carolina, From December Term, 1857 to August Term, 1858, Inclusive, Vol. V.*, by Hamilton C. Jones, Reporter, pages 351-357. The decision of the court concluded with this statement:

... "We are of opinion that the limitation over to the daughter, at the death of the wife, was not to take effect unless the wife's death preceded that of the daughter, and as the wife was the survivor, the cross limitation to the daughter failed, and the wife's estate became absolute; consequently the plaintiff, who is the personal representative of the daughter, is not entitled to the slaves sued for. There is no error.

Per Curiam, Judgement affirmed.

From Original Supreme Court Case #7336. JOSEPH H. BAKER, ADM'R OF NANCY FOXHALL V. JOSEPH J. B. PENDER.
~~~~

HENRY HORN

Hugh B. Johnston Horne Family File

Henry Horn, ca. 1708-1761, son of William Horn, Jr., lived in Bertie and Edgecombe Counties, North Carolina, and married first Lurana ___ (died ca. 1750), married second Elizabeth ___.

On May 7, 1729 John Henard of Bertie County sold Henry Horne for £20.0.0 a tract of 290 acres between Western and Middle Branches adjoining James Rutland (from a grant to Abel Curtis of 640 acres on August 1, 1726); witnessed by Michael Horne, Joseph Lewis and Thomas (T) Barfield.[1] On October 22, 1729, Henry Horn witnessed a deed of Stephen Lee in Chowan County.[2] On May 12, 1730, Henry Baker of Chowan County sold Henry Horn for £30.0.0 current N. C. money 110 acres on the upper end of Ahoskey Pocoson adjoining John Grey; witnessed by John Beverly and Henry Beverly.[3] On July 5, 1733, the will of Francis Pugh of Bertie County was witnessed by Henry Horne, William Jones, and Needham Bryan, and stated that it was "my will that my wife have the management of the ferry where Henry Horne lives."[4]

On February 2, 1735/36, Ralph (R) Mason of Edgecombe County and Hannah (x) his wife sold Henry Horne for £50.0.0 a tract of 100 acres north of Morattock (Roanoke) River and bounded by William Reeves, John Gray, Spring Branch and Turbervill's Branch (Joseph Colson sold it to Isaac Grice who died, and now the widow Hannah Grice was married to said Mason); witnessed by John Jones, Francis (F) Jones, and Philip Jones.[5] On August 9, 1736, Henry Horne, John (C) Colchard and Henry (x) Jones witnessed a deed to George Smith of Bertie to Philip Mulkey in Edgecombe.[5A] On July 6, 1737, Henry Horne of Bertie County sold Thomas Horne for £20 in English money 110 acres on the upper end of Ahoskey Pocoson adjoining John Davison (bought from Henry Baker); witnessed by Charles Horne, Michael Horne, and Moses Horne.[6]

On November 20, 1738, Henry Horne of Bertie County sold Philip Smith for £15.0.0 English money 100 acres adjoining William Reeves, John Gray, and Spring Branch on the north side of Morattock River; witnessed by Henry (H) Jones, Philip Jones and Henry Jones.[7] On May 5, 1742, Governor Gabriel Johnston granted Henry Horne 170 acres in Edgecombe County at the mouth of Dogwood Creek and south of Tar River.[8] On August 16, 1742, Henry and Lurana Horne of Edgecombe County, Planters, sold Abraham Evans of Surry County, Virginia, for £50.0.0 Virginia money 250 acres north of Tar River adjoining Dickinson and Lassiter (from 350 patented by Robert Hilliard on March 6, 1740/41); witnessed by John Sikes and John Lawrence.[9]

On February 7, 1742/43, the will of Owen McDaniell of Bertie County was witnessed by Henry Horne, John Campbell, and Richard Medlin.[10] On May 18, 1743, Henry and Lurana Horn of Edgecome County sold William Dickinson for £5.0.0 Virginia money 100 acres south of Tar River; witnessed by Jacob Braswell, Jr., John Sikes and Edward Seayres.[11] On March 10, 1743/44, Thomas (T) and Elizabeth Kirby sold Henry Horn, Planter, of Edgecomb County, for £110.0.0 current Virginia money 299 acres north of Tar River; witnessed by John Cohoon and E. Richards.[12] On May 23, 1745, Henry Horn was named Constable in place of Jacob Braswell, Jr. On July 3, 1745, Henry and Lurana (x) Horn, Planters, sold Arthur Taylor, Planter, of Edgecombe County, for £20.0.0 current Virginia money 20 acres south of Tar River adjoining William Dickinson (from 170 acres patented said Horn on May 5, 1742); witnessed by William Pugh, John (X) Folk, and Edmond (X) Oneal.[13]

On January 17, 1745/46, Robert (x) and Elizabeth (x) Webb of Edgecomb County sold Henry Horne for £25.0.0 "current silver money of Virginia" 200 acres west of Fishing Creek; witnessed by Thomas Bryant and James Pring.[14] On September 16, 1752, Thomas (T) Kirby sold Henry Horne of Edgecombe County for £20.0.0 a tract of 200 acres north of Tar River adjoining himself and Stoney Creek; witnessed by Edward Moore, Benjamin Bunn, and James Ricks.[15] On September 16, 1752, Thomas (T) Kirby sold Henry Horne for £20.0.0 Proclamation Money 200 acres north of Tar River adjoining himself, Robert Hilliard, and a prong of Compass Creek; witnessed by Edward Moore, Benjamin Bunn, and James Ricks.[16]

On June 25, 1753, Henry Horn, Elizabeth Horn, and Sion Horn witnessed the will of George Stephenson of Edgecombe County.[17] On November 2, 1754, they wittnessed the will of Sarah Wall of Edgecombe County.[18] On October 17, 1755, Henry and Elizabeth (x) Horn witnessed the deed of Thomas and Mary Price to Ignalius Winsett adjoining s^{d}. Horn and Fishing Creek in Edgecombe County.[18A] On August 7, 1756, Benjamin Smith sold Henry Horn for £10.0.0 Proclamation Money 66 acres adjoining William West; witnessed by Edward Moore, Moses Coleman, and Jno. Cohoon.[19] On October 24, 1757, Henry Horn, Sion Horn, and Josiah Horn witnessed the will of John Jones of Edgecombe County.[20]

Henry Horne signed his will in Edgecombe County on March 29, 1761, and it was probated in June Court, 1761: (a) wife and executrix Elizabeth Horne, use of the home plantation during her lifetime, after which it was to be sold for division among the three oldest daughters; use of the household goods, cattle, hogs, and horses, which were to be sold after her death for division among all the children; (b) daughter Ruth Horn, (c) daughter Zerviah; (d) daughter Miriam Horne; (e) daughter Penelope Nunry; (f) son Sion Horne; (g) son Josiah Horne; (h) brother and executor Moses Horn; (i) executor John Scott; and (j) witnesses Reuben (R) Whitfield, Sion (S) Horn, Griffin Nunry, and James (J) Perry.[21]

The inventory of the late Elizabeth Horn of Edgecombe County was presented by Daniel (x) McDaniel, administrator, in May Court 1785.[22] The sale of her personal property was effected on May 20, 1785, and among the purchasers were Sophia Horn, David Hyatt, etc.[23] The account of her estate was examined in 1788, and was submitted by Daniel McDaniel.[24] In August Court, 1788, William Cotton, Henry Harrison, and John Goodman divided the £114.4.4 estate of Elizabeth Horn into seven equal parts worth £16.6.4 each.[25]

Children of Henry and Lurana Horne:

1. Sion Horn is said to have married Elizabeth Bullock.

(Continued on page 117)

(Henry Horn, continued from page 116)

2. **Josiah Horn**
3. **Ruth Horn married David Hyatt.**
4. **Zerviah Horn married Thomas Howerton.**

a. Josiah (x) moved to Edgefield District, South Carolina, where he was living on October 10, 1815, and gave power of attorney to Benjamin Coffield, Sr., of Edgecombe County to sue Thomas Howerton for the property due said Horn at the death of his mother Zervier Howerton; witnessed by Denis Barksdale.[26]

5. **Miriam Horne, born ca. 1748, married Daniel McDaniel, Jr., of Edgecombe County, on February 27, 1766, bonded by Sion (x) Horn.**
6. **Penelope Horne married Griffin (?) Nunry.**

End Notes:

1. Bertie County, Deed Book C, p. 115
2. *North Carolina Historical and Genealogical Register,* II, 447
3. Bertie County, Deed Book C, p. 232
4. J. Bryan Grimes, *The Abstract of North Carolina Wills* (Raleigh, N. C., 1910), p. 304
5. Bertie County, Deed Book D, p. 240

5A. Edgecombe County Deed Book 1, p. 153

6. Bertie County, Deed Book E, p. 163
7. Deed Book, E., p. 456
8. Patent Book 4, p. 145; Patent Book 5, p. 111
9. Halifax County, Deed Book 5, p. 74
10. Grimes, p. 229
11. Halifax County, Deed Book 5, p. 164
12. Deed Book 5, p. 236
13. Deed Book 5, p. 421
14. Deed Book 5, p. 479
15. Deed Book 4, p. 352
16. Deed Book 4, p. 355
17. Grimes, p. 360
18. Grimes, p. 390

18A. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 2, p. 364

19. Halifax County, Deed Book 6, p. 74
20. Grimes, p. 194
21. Edgecombe County, Will Book A, p. 52
22. Edgecombe County, Inventories & Accounts of Sales, 1783-1768, p. 161
23. Idem, pp. 181/184
24. Inventories & Accounts of Sales, 1788-1790, pp. 60/61
25. Idem, p. 91
26. Edgecombe County, Deed Book 15, p. 319

[Editor's note: In the August 2006 issue of *Trees of Wilson*, we included Hugh B. Johnston's record of Henry Horne, 1716-1798, who moved to Edgecombe County in 1754 and to Wayne County in 1777. These two men lived in Edgecombe County during about the same time period—a genealogist's nightmare. Even though it seems quite clear that this Henry Horn never lived in an area that became Wilson County, we included this article to assist those Horn re**searchers who might need this information to sort the two and as a caution to all researchers to check carefully when dealing with records of persons with the same name.]**

SALLIE RENTFROW OBITUARY

Zion's Landmark, February 1, 1901

Contributed by J. Robert Boykin

SALLIE RENTFROW.

By request, I send you for publication the obituary of Sallie Rentfrow, wife of Rufus Rentfrow, and daughter of Marion Aycock. She was born and raised near Fremont, Wayne county. She died Oct. 15, 1900. At this time she and her husband were living in Spring Hill township, Wilson county. The dates of birth and marriage are not known by me. She leaves a husband and four children to mourn their loss. She was a kind and affectionate wife and mother, and a good neighbor. She was one of those that bore a good name, which is better than precious ointment. She was a faithful member of the Primitive Baptist church at Memorial for many years prior to her death, ever filling her seat when not providentially hindered. Her disease was a cancer. All was done for her that earthly friends could do, but no one could stay the cold hand of death. The humble writer was called on to preach her funeral, at her request a few weeks before she died. Her suffering was so great that she had to be turned in the bed with a sheet, but while the preaching was going on she forgot her suffering, and you could see the very presence of Christ beaming in her countenance. When the service was over she said, "This is the doctrine that I have been living on for twenty years and seems as good to-day as when I first received my little hope." She then went on to tell some of her trials in this life and how God had been a present help in every time of need. She said she had always wanted to get well every time she had been sick, for she hated to leave her husband and children; but she said her mind was taken away from them and that she now saw that God was able to take care of them far better than she could.

It seems to me that she bore her sickness with as much patience as any one I ever saw. I went to see her several times [during] her sickness, and I always found her in the strongest faith, which enabled her to look to a better world than this. Let me say to all that are near to her by the ties of nature, weep not for her, for she is free from a body of suffering; her soul is now enjoying that rest that does remain for the people of God, where there will be no more suffering, no more pain, no more parting with husband and children and friends, but ever rule with Christ in that world that has no end.

... May the good Lord bless her husband and children that they may meet again in that world where no sorrow is known.

G. W. Boswell.

[Editor's note: Rufus Rentfrow married Sallie Aycock on February 18, 1858, at the home of Warren Aycock in Wayne County. In 1850, Rufus, age 21, farmer, Sallie, age 22, and Pollie, age 1, lived in Kirby's District.

In 1870, Rufus, age 32, farmer, and Sarah, age 33, lived in Springhill Township. Mary, age 11, Francy, age 5, and William, age 3, lived with them.

In 1900, Rufus, born July 1838, and Sallie, born April 1838, lived in Springhill Township. They had been married forty-two years, had **fourteen children, and six were still living. He was still farming.** ***Marriages of Wilson County, 1855-1899,*** **J. Robert Boykin, III; *Wilson County, North Carolina Federal Census of 1860,* abstracted by Joan L. Howell, and same for 1870, and 1900.]**

ZADOCK AND ALSEA JOHNSON TO JACOB BARNES DEED
Edgecombe County Deed Book 20, page 6

This Indenture made the 16th day of February in the year of our Lord one Thousand Eight hundred & Thirty between Zadock Johnston & Alsea his wife of the County of Edgecomb & State of N. Carolina of the one part and Jacob Barnes of the same place of the other part. Witnesseth. That for an inconsideration of the sum of one hundred Dollars to them in hand paid the receipt Whereof they do hereby acknowledge and themselves fully satisfied and and by these presents hath Bargainned and sold unto the said Jacob Barnes his heirs & and assings a certain Tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County and State aforesaid and and on the South side of Tosnott Swamp, Bounded as follows. Beginning at a Sasafras in Elisha Woodard line and running said line north fifteen & a half degrees west 120 pole to a white oak said Woodard & Josiah Daniels corner, thence with said Daniels line north 50. Et 70. pole to his corner a pine thence South 10. East 30. pole to a Stake said Daniels corner then with his line north 70. East 70. pole to the main road thence down said road south 20½ East 87 pole to a stake on said road then south 62, west 150 pole to the first beginning containing ninty two Acres more or less to have and to hold the above bounded land together with all the appurtainances thereunto belonging unto the said Barnes his heirs and assigns and we the said Zadock & Alsea Johnston do and will warrant and defend the right title and claim of said land from all persons whatsoever unto the said Jacob Barnes his heirs and assigns forever given under our hands and seals day and date above written Signed and sealed in the presents of us

M Thomas Zadock Johnston
Jos. Daniel her

Alsea --o- Johnston
Mark

Agreeble to an order of Court to us directed we Elijah Price & Henry T. Stanton Justices of the peace for the County of Edgecomb proceeded to take the private examination at the House of Zadock Johnston where we took the examination of Alsea Johnston separate and apart from her husband touching her consent to her freely executing a deed of sale from herself & her said husband to Jacob Barnes who declared that she had executed the said deed by her own voluntary consent without any compulsion from her husband or any other person given under our hands & seals Apl. 1830. E. Price J. P.
H. T. Stanton Is.

Edgecombe County May Court 1830

The foregoing Deed of Sale was exhibited in open Court and proved by the oath of Jos. Daniel a Subscribing witness thereto — ordered to be Recorded
Test Michl. Hearn, C. C.

[Editor's notes: Delanah Amason was named as "natural daughter" in the will of Elisha Woodard. Ailsey Amason, daughter of Isaac and Delanah Amason, married Zadock Johnston. Their marriage bond was dated February 1, 1828, in Edgecombe County. Enos Amason and Joshua Johnston were bondsman; Ml. Hern was witness.]

WILSON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Local History Room awaits your research session. The collection of books and microfilm is very extensive. Plan to take advantage of our expanded research facility.

NEW!!! A special file cabinet has been added to house family history records in a secure manner. Those loose files already at the library are in the process of being filed. Your family records would be welcome additions. See Deborah Webb, Reference Librarian, to make your contribution.

The library is open Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Thursday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm. Parking is available near the Broad Street Entrance.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

- *Young American Patriots: The Youth of North Carolina in World War II*
- *Jones County Cemeteries, Jones County, North Carolina: Pollocksville Township and White Oak Township,* compiled by Laura Lee Spencer, Kay Becton Ogle and Dennis E. Jones
- *Free in a Slave Society: The Lucas/Locus Family of Virginia and North Carolina, Triracial Black Identified, Over 250 Years of History*, Europe Ahmad Farmer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Dues renewal time is upon us. Send us your payment to continue to be an active member of Wilson County Genealogical Society. If your renewal payment has not been received by the time that we make the mailing labels for February *Trees of Wilson*, your subscription will be discontinued.**
- **The National Genealogical Society Annual Workshop will be held in Richmond, Virginia, May 16-19, 2007. Your editors attended the last time it was held in Richmond and found it to be money well spent. There were so many programs that we wanted to attend that we found it difficult to make our choices. The lecturers were very knowledgeable and made their topics interesting.**
- ***Patriot Sons, Patriot Brothers,* by Hugh O. Nash, Jr., is the story of a Prince Edward County, Virginia, family and two sons, Francis Nash and Abner Nash, who became North Carolina heroes of the American Revolution. Nash County, North Carolina; Nashville, North Carolina; Nashville, Georgia; and Nashville, Tennessee; were named for Francis Nash. This new book has been published by Westview Publishing Co., Inc.**

OCTOBER 31, 2006, MEETING

The October WCGS meeting was held in the Wilson Library with Keith Barnes as our featured speaker. SuePowell, our president, welcomed and introduced our guests. The minutes were approved as printed in Trees and a brief treasurer's report was given which includes the presale money from the future printing of Founding Families.

Work on the Founding Families Book is still on hold and will be until early 2007 due to illness in the Powell family. The 2007 calendar will feature Lucama. With the assistance of Horace Renfrow of Lucama, the sites have been chosen and work is in progress.

Sue had interesting articles that were passed around for members to view and read. She reminded us that the Winstead banner needs a home and that it is time for dues. Payment should be made by January 31 to continue to receive Trees. New members who join WCGS in October or November receive the remaining 2006 issues and all ten issues of 2007.

The proposed slate of officers for the coming year was presented with no new nominations from the floor. They are: Sue Powell, President; Phil Mooring, Vice President; Secretary, Frances Roberson; Treasurer, Henry Powell; New Board Member, Jane Poston.
A motion was made to elect the nominees as presented.

Keith Barnes presented a most interesting program on the past history of tobacco in our town. He stated that tobacco began to be important to us here in 1890 and told how it touched most people in some way, as it was so very important to our economy. He had wonderful pictures which he showed and related that there is a wealth of pictures and so much material available that it was extremely difficult to make selections for the book. There will be nine chapters in the book and many pictures. Of course, some of us might find our pictures among the pages.

Keith acknowledged the information and pictures received from Guy Cox and Bobby Boykin who both were in attendance at the meeting. Dr. Bill Clark's books on Wilson Tobacco History were another valuable source.

The various chapters are: Early Years, Warehouses and Auctions, Planning, growing, and Harvesting; Celebrating Tobacco (Includes big name entertainers, dances, parades, etc), Processing Factories, Economic and Social Impact, Politicians, Modern Era, Future Direction of Tobacco in Wilson County

It was an interesting program on a topic that has affected all of us in some way through the years. Keith made tobacco come alive to us one more time!!

The meeting was adjourned with the board members meeting briefly while others discussed our excellent program.

Frances W. Roberson

WCGS OCTOBER 17TH BOARD MEETING

The board met at the home of Henry and Sue Powell.

The time is nearing for next years calendar so a date and time were to be arranged to meet with Horace Renfrow in Lucama for the site visitation and picture taking. That has been set up for Monday the 23rd.

Black Creed will display our calendars on Black Creek Heritage day, so it was agreed to do so and with a price reduction.

The board of the Wilson Historic Preservation fund is searching for ways to preserve Wilson's historical buildings. There is approximately $33,000.00 in a fund which has been retrieved from the State Treasury and is available for preservation efforts. It was agreed to give a copy of the book *Wilson County's Architectural Heritage* to the new director of the now named "Preservation of Wilson" society.

Henry gave a report on the problems with the WCGS' credit card usage, and it was agreed to close the merchant charge account and use Pay Pal for credit card users who will go through our web site for orders.

It was suggested again that perhaps we might see about using reruns of family histories in *The Daily Times* until such time as Henry is ready to do new ones. Wanda Taylor will investigate that and arrange to have a short announcement printed in the column of local events in the paper prior to our monthly meetings.

It was also suggested to investigate the possibility of putting "Trees" on CDs. Phil Mooring agreed to explore the possibility of it being a student project at the Wilson Technical Community College.

There were some program topics suggested. Sue gave a report on "The Book," and we adjourned with the announcement that we would meet with the new board prior to the November meeting.

Frances W. Roberson

WCGS Board Planning Meeting For 2007

The board met at the home of Henry and Sue Powell on November 14, 2006, with six members in attendance.

For the regular WCGS November meeting, there will be show and tell, annual reports, installation of officers and refreshments. The club will provide the paper products, but need members to bring the food!! It was decided to invite Debby Webb and Greg Needham, the new library director.

Sue requests articles on disc ready to insert into publisher format and assistance with transcription of documents that can be used in future articles in Trees. Founding Families work will resume in 2007 with the final sweep for additional materials and corrections. She will need assistance with proofreading and plans to submit a text copy to the publisher for a run to get pages as they will be in the book.

Wilson Historic Buildings Inventory is an upcoming project waiting to be updated. There is a 4 page errata sheet, and a decision will have to be made to decide how to handle that for photocopy and the book will need a new index.

Subjects for the 2008 calendar were discussed. The possibility of using old houses here in town can be considered.

Programs for the coming year were discussed with suggestions on topics and speakers. Some possibilities are: Peter Thompson, a native of Wales; John Peacock, a teacher at Nash Community College; early medicine, genealogy methods, and preservation of textiles. Historic Buildings Preservation, Betty McCain on the World War II Project of the Historical Association and Religious Immigration are already scheduled. The June social and November show and tell will remain on the program schedule.

Frances W. Roberson

Trees of Wilson
Family Chronicles of the
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TREES OF WILSON

Wilson's Family Heritage

The Chronicles of the
Wilson County Genealogical Society

Year 2006

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If the same name appears more than once on a given page, it will be listed in the index only once. Search the page for additional appearances of the same name.

Generally, names listed in the index will be as they appear on the page; however, some assumptions were made in obvious cases (such as "Sallie, wife of Jesse Smith" was indexed as Sallie Smith). Where maiden or previous surnames were given, they appear in the index in parenthesis. In addition, these women will be found indexed by their maiden and/or former surnames.

In most cases variant spellings of a surname are grouped under the most common spelling. Be sure to look for variant spellings of the name which you seek.

Business and place names are included only if they contain a surname within their name.

The index does not contain names pertaining to current society business (such as membership roster, new members, etc.) Every effort has been made to include just those names of genealogical/historical significance.

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